

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Man's work
The life of a male midwife. Lee Rodwell meets a man in a woman's world.

Cash...
Stephen Taylor in Zambia. Part 2: the economy.

...register
The changing face of Carmen.



Canal...
A Special Report on the cultural treasures of the Veneto

...boats
How life has turned out for the boat people from Vietnam.

Cosmonauts return to Earth

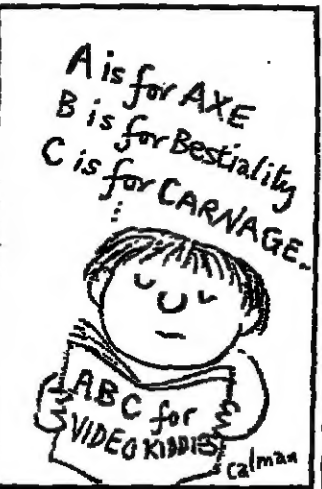
The two cosmonauts who spent five months in the Salyut 7 space station returned safely to Earth last night. Tass said Soyuz T9, with Vladimir Lyakhov and Alexander Alexandrov on board, had separated from Salyut 7 earlier in the day.

Italians seize Briton's home

An Italian judge ordered seizure of the home and land in Italy belonging to Mr Stephen May, husband of Mrs Jeanette May, pending a decision on whether to pay a £43,000 reward to the man who found Mrs May's body in January 1982.

Growth doubts

Slower economic growth, rising unemployment and higher inflation are forecast for next year by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, contradicting the Treasury's optimism.



Video nasties

Four out of ten children have seen video nasties, which are often shown at children's parties, it has been claimed.

Delhi warning

Mrs Thatcher dispelled Commonwealth hopes of establishing a new economic order and told heads of government in Delhi that there was no magic formula to transform world trade.

Blomqvist wins

Stig Blomqvist, of Sweden, driving a British-prepared Audi Quattro, won the Lombard RAC Rally which finished in Bath yesterday.

Leader page 13
Letters: On parole, from Lord Elton; Woolworth case, from Lady Phillips; faith, from the Rev B Thoroughgood, and others.

Leading articles: Norman Fowler on social planning; the INF talks; the NGA dispute.

Features, pages 10, 12
Taxes: cuts will come, the Chancellor tells *The Times*; Bernard Levin on masters old and new; Spectrum: a profile of artist John Piper.

Obituary, page 14
Dr T. H. Wills, Mrs Lucy Middleton.

Books, page 11
Sir John Plumb reviews Robert Rhodes James's biography of Prince Albert; Andrew Sinclair on fiction; Piers Brendon on F. E. Smith; Woodrow Wyatt on Woodhouse; Dr John Percival on Roman London; Tom Hutchinson on science fiction.

Special Report, pages 21 to 24
Telford and the M54 motorway, which opens tomorrow.

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Union ordered back to court over illegal picketing

● The National Graphical Association has been ordered to court tomorrow to explain why it has not paid a £50,000 fine for illegal secondary picketing.

● The TUC has pledged moral support for the union, but has held back from endorsing breach of the law.

● The court action has been instigated by

Mr Selim Shah, proprietor of the Messenger group of newspapers, who accused the union of "bullyboy tactics".

● Newspaper distributors won an injunction against Sogat '82, ordering the union to stop "blacking" magazines printed by Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communications Corporation.

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The National Graphical Association, which has been ordered to appear in the High Court in Manchester tomorrow to explain its refusal to pay a £50,000 fine, has been promised TUC support in its dispute with the Stockport Messenger group of newspapers, although union leader are unenthusiastic about the prospect of a confrontation with the law.

Members of the TUC general council yesterday declared its moral support for the NGA but insisted that any practical help, such as financial aid, would be given only after emergency meetings of its employment committee and general council.

There was scarcely veiled criticism of the conduct of picketing involving members of the NGA over the last two days. Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, said after the two-hour meeting that its policy was that "mass picketing is counterproductive".

The union was also criticized in the House of Commons by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, who asked the House to join him in "deploping the disgraceful behaviour that occurred at Warrington and to reaffirm that such conduct has no place in industrial relations in this country and that the law must be observed".

But Mr Joe Wade, the NGA

general secretary, said that mass demonstrations outside Mr Selim Shah's premises would continue until the closed shop dispute was settled.

He appealed for peaceful picketing, but was adamant that the union would not pay the £50,000 fine imposed by Mr Justice Boreham in Manchester last week.

Some union officials believe the next step could be a further fine of as much as £150,000, although all parties in the dispute, which is rapidly becoming more serious, appeared to hope that peace talks to be arranged by the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service would take some of the heat out of the situation. Talks are unlikely to start before late tomorrow.

The only remaining area of disagreement is Mr Shah's refusal to reemploy six NGA members dismissed 21 weeks ago when they went on strike over a closed shop agreement.

The hearing in Manchester tomorrow will consider Mr Shah's application seeking leave to issue a writ of acquiescence on the NGA for failure to observe a court order to stop secondary picketing that is unlawful under the 1980 Employment Act.

But Mr King told MPs yesterday that the court wanted to deal with the question of

Maxwell wins injunction

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

London's wholesale newspaper distributors yesterday won an injunction to stop the print union, Sogat '82, "blacking" the distribution of magazines printed by the British Printing and Communications Corporation (BPCC). Under the order, the union will have to halt the action immediately and return to work by 11.00pm.

The order, taken out by 11 companies, including W H Smith and Menzies, names as the defendants the union itself and the central London branch deputy secretary, Mr Edward Chard.

The Justice Taylor granted the order in chambers at the High Court in London and gave Sogat until tomorrow afternoon to appeal. But the order has immediate effect.

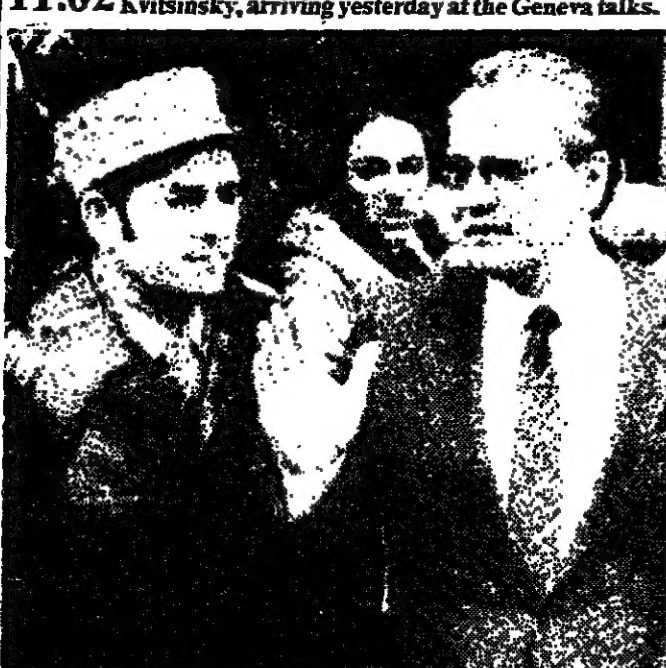
The court action has been brought under the 1980 Employment Act and follows "secondary action" by Sogat in sympathy with 550 workers at BPCC's Park Royal plant, in West London.

A small number of workers yesterday continued their sit-in at the plant, but Mr Robert Maxwell, the chairman of BPCC, has transferred typesetting of the *Radio Times* and *The Listener* to Wheatons of Exeter with the tacit approval of the national leadership of both Sogat and the National Graphical Association, the other print union involved.

A special meeting of the national council of Sogat is to meet tomorrow. Mr Williams Keys, the general secretary of the union, will repeat his advice that the blacking action should stop.



11.02 Going in: The Soviet negotiator, Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky, arriving yesterday at the Geneva talks.



11.27 Coming out: Jostled by newsmen he announces his Government has broken off the negotiations.

Nato tries to keep arms talks going

By Our Foreign Staff

Governments of Nato countries last night began taking the first steps to begin talks on keeping nuclear disarmament negotiations alive after the walkout by the Soviet Union in Geneva.

The expected breakdown came after a 25-minute meeting at the intermediate range nuclear force (INF) talks with the chief Russian negotiator, Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky, announcing: "This round has been discontinued and no date set for a resumption."

The Russian action, which had been often threatened, followed the vote in the German Bundestag on Tuesday night in favour of basing American Pershing 2 missiles in West Germany. Within a few hours of the vote the first parts began to arrive at the nine Pershing sites which are scheduled to be operational by the end of the year.

President Reagan said he was disappointed but not surprised by the Russian decision. "I cannot believe the walkout is permanent," he said before leaving Washington to spend the Thanksgiving holiday at his ranch in California.

The American negotiators would remain in Geneva. The United States would be ready to continue the negotiations whenever the Russians were ready to come back. He did not believe the walk-out was permanent.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, is responding to pressure from his backbenchers and withdrawing a circular to local authorities which has been seen as foreshadowing a relaxation of the Government's green belt policy.

He told the Commons yesterday that his original circular

Smoking 'killing more than 100,000 a year'

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

The Royal College of Physicians launched its strongest attack on the Government yesterday, accusing it of failing to help to prevent a "hidden holocaust" of death and disease caused by cigarette smoking.

The college said that 100,000 people in Britain die prematurely every year because of smoking and called for government action on a problem which was "comparable with that of the devastating epidemics of infectious disease of the past".

Ministers should "tackle cigarette smoking with the urgency once given to cholera, diphtheria, polio and tuberculosis", it said in its fourth report on the health risks of smoking.

Members said yesterday that the previous report, six years ago, contained seven recommendations, only one of which was put into effect by the Government.

The new report recommends a ban on sales promotion of tobacco, a steady annual increase in tobacco tax and reductions in the tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide yields of cigarettes.

It strives to alert almost every section of the community to the hazards, including non-smokers, and women and children in particular. It says

that non-smoking wives may be more likely to contract lung cancer because their husbands smoke, and that pregnant women who smoke, harm their unborn children and impair their subsequent development.

Children of smokers are more prone to chest infections, are shorter than their primary school friends whose parents do not smoke, and may lag behind them by six or seven months in intellectual ability at the age of 11.

The college says that the annual death toll in Britain caused by smoking is "not less than 100,000" and adds: "This figure is so large that it completely dwarfs the number of deaths that can be reliably attributed to any other known external factors such as alcohol, road accidents, or suicide."

Among 1,000 young male smokers in England and Wales, "on average one will be murdered, six will be killed in road accidents, and 250 will be killed before their time by tobacco."

The report's authors say: "With this vast toll of entirely unnecessary disease and early death it might have been thought that the Government would have acted swiftly and in a coordinated way to try to

continued on back page, col 1

Pensions protection pledged by Fowler

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Legislation to protect pensions of people who move from one job to another, and a wider inquiry into the future of pensions into the next century, were announced by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday.

The inquiry, which he is to chair and which will take evidence in public, will examine the age of retirement, changes in the age structure of the population and how that will affect the financing of pensions in the future.

It will also consider the possibilities of "portable pensions" by which individuals can identify their stake in pension funds and take it with them when they change jobs.

The inquiry, which is due to report by next autumn, would include treasury, employment and trade and industry ministers, and outside experts, Mr Fowler said. The intention was to make it "as open as possible".

The Government is expected today to object to a recommendation from the Commons Select Committee on Social Services that the pension age for men and women should be gradually equalized at 63, but that issue will go before the inquiry.

Mr Fowler said the inquiry would study "the future development, adequacy and cost of state, occupational and private provision for retirement in Britain, including the portability of pension rights, and consider possible changes in those arrangements".

A key issue would be changes in the age structure of the population over the next 40 years and how pensions should be financed.

Mr Fowler said: "The present projections show a patchwork, with falls as well as rises in the numbers of old people relative to the population."

While the proportion of those over 65 would remain more or less stable until about 2010, the indications thereafter are that the proportion of elderly would rise quite rapidly.

Estimates of future pension costs involved not only the age structure but assumptions about price and earnings increases. On the least favourable assumption by the Government Actuary, contribution rates could increase from 15.4 per cent to 21.9 per cent by the year 2025.

Meanwhile, the Government hopes to legislate in the next session of Parliament to protect those who change jobs but have to leave pension rights behind.

In addition, the Government is to publish a consultative document on providing individuals with more information about the pension schemes to which they belong.

Jenkin backs down on green belt circular

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, is responding to pressure from his backbenchers and withdrawing a circular to local authorities which has been seen as foreshadowing a relaxation of the Government's green belt policy.

He told the Commons yesterday that his original circular

Missing £9m eludes De Lorean receivers

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A Commons select committee was told yesterday that a two-year investigation by the De Lorean Motor Cars receivers had failed to track down almost £9m missing after payment to a mystery company in Geneva.

The Committee of Public Accounts is investigating the failure of the De Lorean company, wound up last year with an estimated loss of £79m of taxpayers' money.

MPs on the committee concentrated their attention on the "unheard of" Swiss company called GPD Services Inc, which had been brought in to

act as an intermediary between the De Lorean company on the one side and Lotus Cars, of Norwich, and the then Lotus chairman, Mr Colin Chapman on the other.

Lotus was to carry out the research and development work on the car project, but Mr Chapman who died last year, had insisted that GPD, of Geneva, should be used as a buffer company "because of his concern that government support for De Lorean Motor Cars might not continue with a change of government".

But the MPs were last night told that although Lotus received a direct payment of £11.5m for work done between

April, 1979, and December, 1981, two further payments of \$5.1m (then about £2.4m) and \$12.5m, made to GPD, were not received by Lotus in Norwich.

Two of the MPs on the committee, Mr Frederick Silvester, (Labour, Coventry North-East), expressed surprise that Lotus should have done £9m worth of work "out of the goodness of their heart".

Mr Anthony Hopkins, deputy chief executive of the Northern Ireland Development Board, disclosed that the Bank of England had approved the payment of the \$5.1m to GPD

in Geneva under exchange control procedures.

Mr Michael Latham, Conservative MP for Rutland and Melton, said that the committee had "listened in horror" to the details of payments made. He revealed that criminal investigations were continuing.

At the start of the hearing, Mr Tate made clear that his colleague, Mr Kenneth Bloomfield, a former permanent secretary at the Department of Commerce, had not joined that department until February 1981 and he had not therefore been responsible for the initial negotiations with De Lorean in 1978.

Appeal to PLO

Moscow urged the splintered PLO to settle its differences by political means, saying Russia would help "in every way possible".

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Ferry strike

Cross-Channel ferry services from Dover to Calais and Boulogne were halted yesterday by a strike at the French ports. The strike was expected to last 24 hours.

Border security

Two senior RUC officers have been drafted into south Antrim to lead the fight against terrorists in border areas. Page 2



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Four out of ten children have seen video nasties, questionnaire reveals

By Kenneth Gosling

Hundreds of thousands of children aged between six and sixteen have seen video nasties, and, it was claimed yesterday, scenes of horrific violence and sex are often shown at birthday parties where they are replacing the conjugal entertainment.

Figures published yesterday in a special report prepared for a parliamentary inquiry, show that four out of ten children in a survey sample had seen films such as *Driller Killer* and *I Spit On Your Grave*.

Dr Clifford Hill, director of the inquiry, said at a press conference in London yesterday: "Very often the films were shown at birthday parties, where the nasty has replaced the conjugal."

"Older children go out and rent them intending to shock the younger ones. I would say that in some homes, particularly where there are younger parents, the video cassette recorder is replacing the baby-sitter."

The report, which is the result of research set up by an all-party group from both Houses of Parliament, led the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Cogan, to say: "There must be many who peddle these things who know what they peddle and I would put those who know in the same category as those who traffic in drugs."

Lord Cogan was among members of the Lords who were shown a 20-minute police compilation of nasties.

The emphasis in the films was on violence rather than sex, he said. "They were not the blue film variety but there was a strong sexual element - rape and so on - and one of the dangers is that the child's introduction to sex is in the context of violence."

He said he had no doubt that the effect of video nasties would be seen in increasing violence in society.

A group of Coventry children, all aged nine, were questioned by their teachers about videos they had seen.

David said: "I like seeing people killed. I like it because it's more aggro."

Warren: "I like all the blood coming out."

Stevie: "I like the bit in *Driller Killer* where he puts a man up on sticks and he's like this (demonstrates pose) and then he gets drill and puts it through his stomach and he screams for ages. Then he dies."

Teachers appeared to have been amazed at what their discussions revealed. They had no ideal, they said, what the children had been watching; and they were extremely surprised at their lucid and lurid accounts of violence, and of bloody and horrific scenes.

The report is the first of three, issued now to coincide with the Video Recordings Bill, introduced by Mr Graham Bright, Conservative MP for Luton South, and given its second reading in the Commons a fortnight ago. Research was conducted with the cooperation of the country's education authorities and financed privately by the churches and other well wishers.

Questionnaires were answered by 6,000 children who were given a list of 100 most popular video films interspersed with 32 either found obscene or the subject of legal proceedings.

Questioned about exposure to individual videos - 17.7 per cent had watched *Bogey Man*, and more than eight per cent, *I Spit On Your Grave*.

The report refers to a 25 per cent increase in violent crime between 1978 and 1982 and the fact that of the world total of about 36.5 million video recorders, 6 million or 17.9 per cent are in British homes.

More detailed findings, using psychiatric evidence of the effects on children of viewing nasties, will be published next spring; but the interim report says a significant number of children of all ages described nightmares attributable to watching nasties.

The Rev Peter Liddell, deputy headmaster of a comprehensive school in west London, said he had spoken to 10 out of 13 children who had seen violent films on home videos.

"Several had dreams in which atrocities they had seen were carried out on them; others reenacted what they saw."

The report expresses police frustration at the length of time taken to obtain prosecutions in connection with suspected video nasties. And video dealers and distributors as well as the police were anxious for clarification on what constituted "a tendency to deprave or corrupt" as defined in the Obscene Publications Act 1959.

The report adds: "There appears to be a widespread view among the police themselves that they have all the powers they need to remove video nasties from sale or hire to the public. What they feel they do not have is what constitutes a video nasty - and this, they argue, can only be obtained by redefining the Obscene Publications Act."

It also comments that in addition to hundreds of thousands of children having seen films which have been legally declared obscene, the number would run into millions if to these are added video films said to be unsuitable for children and those of a nervous disposition.

Video Violence and Children: Report of a Parliamentary Group Video Inquiry: Part One - Children's Viewing Patterns (P.G.V.E. Report Office, 58 Haverhill Gardens, London SE11 5TN; £3 plus 75p postage and 10 copies write for bulk purchase list).



The van from which a security guard vanished allegedly with £48,000 in London yesterday (Photograph: John Manning).

Police seek missing security guard and £48,000

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

London detectives yesterday were hunting a security guard who allegedly vanished from his van with nearly £48,000 and left a note saying the money was his answer to impending redundancy.

The note, discovered after firemen cut into the armoured van, also contained an apology to the man's colleagues who had left him alone in the vehicle while they went to the Baker Street Underground station to see about a cash collection.

The guard works for Mint

Security yesterday he was the radio operator in a team of three men delivering and collecting cash from eight customers in the central London area. Just after midday the van pulled up outside the station and the driver and a second guard went inside.

The missing guard, aged 52 and originally from St Vincent in the West Indies, was left in the rear of the van. A colleague returned and called to him in the back but received no reply.

The guard thought that the man might be ill, but there was no way he could get inside the van because of the security system built into it. The police, an ambulance and two fire engines with special cutting equipment were called to the scene.

After nearly 30 minutes the van was opened up through a ventilation cowl and the disappearance of the guard discovered. Scotland Yard said they believed the man had walked away into the lunchtime crowds in the West End of London

carrying the money in three plastic shopping bags.

Mint Security, part of the Securicor group, said a total of £42,928 in cash had disappeared, plus £4,849 in cheques. The money had been carried in eight containers in the rear of the van as the crew went on their rounds.

The guard, who has not been named, lives in east London. A spokesman for Securicor said they were not aware of any redundancies being carried out.

The Arts Council

Urgent request for more cash

By David Hewson

Arts Council's target was not met.

The council expressed its concern over the threat to the arts posed by the Government's proposal to abolish the metropolitan authorities, which are an important source of subsidy. In a response to the Priestley Report on the Royal Opera House and the Royal Shakespeare Company, it said that there was no prospect whatever of business sponsorship growing to fill the gap.

"The number of organizations in desperate need of substantially increased funds is greater than ever before. Thus, in the field of opera, the Royal Opera House's funding problem is not unique but part of a general financial crisis," it said.

Unless more money could be found, English National Opera and other companies would

have to suffer severe diminution of activity.

"In the field of drama, vitally important regional companies will be financially at risk; regional orchestras will be unable to escape widening budget deficits; the nation's dance companies will be imperilled; touring will have to be cut back impairing the viability of receiving theatres..."

However, it now seems certain that the immediate financial crises of Covent Garden and the RSC will be resolved without handing the companies over to direct funding by Government, as Priestley recommended. The Arts Council indicated yesterday that it was reluctantly willing to accept Government funds specifically earmarked for the two companies, for one year, in spite of the council's dislike of accepting grants for specific purposes.

BA freeze domestic air fares

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

An indefinite fare freeze in British Airways' domestic routes, including the Super Shuttle to Glasgow and Edinburgh, was announced by Mr Colin Marshall the chief executive, yesterday.

BA domestic fares went up by 5 per cent last April, but the airline will now "hold them at their present level for as long as we possibly can," Mr Marshall said.

The freeze was possible because of improvements in productivity and substantial traffic gains on domestic routes, which expect to carry 3.5 million passengers this year, the airline said.

The staff has been cut by over a third, to 36,000 over the past three years, and trade unions have collaborated in exercises designed to cut jobs and introduce more flexible working practices on domestic routes, some of which might otherwise have been closed.

Pilots now carried out ground-handling of the aircraft, and cabin staff dealt with passengers in terminals, practices unheard of five years ago, as part of a staff reduction from more than 400 to under 200 on the Highlands and Islands division.

Similar joint management-staff studies were going on in other divisions.

Britain and Europe could be totally dependent on flags-of-convenience shipping to carry its goods and raw materials by the end of the century, Mr John Prescott, the Labour spokesman on transport, said yesterday.

Such a prospect was strategically and economically unacceptable, he told a shipping conference of the socialist group of the European Parliament, and steps must be taken to prevent it even if they ran counter to the Treaty of Rome.

Computer exam idea for slow learners

Young people taking the examinations of the future may find themselves poring over questions posed by a microcomputer linked to a television screen, a government conference on mathematics for slow learners was told yesterday.

The possibility was suggested by Mr Derek Foxman, leader of a new three-year project set up by the National Foundation for Educational Research to devise graduated tests in mathematics for less able pupils.

"The possibility of using microcomputers for test administration will be considered," he told a meeting in London of mathematics advisers, academics, officials of the Department of Education and Science, and representatives of teachers' organizations and examination boards.

The project is one of three being funded by the department at a cost of £500,000 in response to the Cockcroft report on mathematics teaching, which found that less able children are

ill-served by existing syllabuses. Mr Foxman said that the new tests would represent a clear break with the abstractions of traditional examination papers.

Instead, pupils would be assessed on their ability to do everyday tasks. For instance, they could be asked to plan a family outing which would involve using a timetable and working out how much could be spent on meals and fares.

The tests would be graduated and pupils would have to be proficient at one level before tackling a more difficult problem. The certificates awarded would seek to give potential employers a clear statement of a candidate's achievements.

The approach was endorsed by Mr Robert Dunn, the Under Secretary in charge of schools. If all children were to understand mathematics and show their confidence in the subject, teaching had to be more closely related to the needs of employment and working life, he said.

Science 'taster' courses for girls proposed

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Schools should introduce courses to try to interest girls in science, Lady Platt, chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, said yesterday.

They could be introduced in the third, fourth and fifth years of secondary schools to stop girls giving up science subjects at examination level. They were also being established in universities and colleges, Lady Platt said.

Westland Helicopters had produced a careers pack designed to persuade girls to take up training technician engineering posts with the company.

"That type of approach is good, not only for the girls, but for the company too," she said.

The selling of Britain

Tourism gets harder-headed

By John Sansom

The selling of British tourism has been reorganized by the Government into a much more hard-headed affair with the appointment of Mr David Black as chairman of the British Tourist Authority with a mandate for change.

Without such a shake-up, many have argued, this successful industry would just carry on pumping "invisible" money into the Exchequer, getting little in return.

In future, the British Tourist Authority will be restricted to selling Britain overseas, and at the same time Mr Black will have responsibility for the English Tourist Board.

The BTA and the English, Scottish and Welsh tourist boards are also to become much more commercial in their outlook, seeing their business more in terms of marketing a

product rather than providing services.

A private equity fund is to be set up by City institutions early next year which would provide cash for important tourism projects. The development of more imaginative schemes outside London - such as industrial archaeology - is likely to be encouraged.

The merger of BTA and ETB would save up to £500,000 a year. Economies will come from the sharing of offices and the cutting of duplication. There are also likely to be redundancies.

However tourism chiefs in Scotland and Wales fear that England might get more than its share of promotion abroad from the BTA, a feeling already reflected in criticism from Scottish and Welsh MPs.

Money is also to be spent on revitalizing some of the more

traditional resorts. New sources of income will have to be found if a clash with local government spending cuts is to be avoided.

The industry's overall view of the reorganization is that it is fine so far as it goes but that the number of tourists and the revenue they bring cannot rise appreciably without some government concessions, such as a preferential VAT rate for tourist services.

In his last annual report Sir Henry Marking, who will retire five months early next March as chairman of the ETB, made a plea for that, pointing out that many EEC countries "recognize the importance of tourism earnings in their export endeavours", and have lower rates for hotels and restaurants.

The author is deputy editor of "Travel Trade Gazette".

Shoplifting charge dropped

A war heroine aged 83 walked free from a court in London yesterday after a chain store decided to drop a shoplifting charge against her in a private prosecution.

Mrs Joyce Murchie, a widow, of Redcliffe Road, West Brompton, was a member of the Special Operations Executive.

She was accused of stealing a £2.99 beret from the Miss Selfridge boutique in Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, on October 19.

But Mr Brian Stalk, for the prosecution, told Hoveffery Road Magistrates' Court that the store had decided not to offer any evidence against her.

"She is a lady of 83, of previous good character and the goods alleged involved are small", Mr Stalk said.

Mock hanging inquiry launched
Devon Education Authority started an investigation yesterday into the mock hanging of a boy aged 15 from a tree in the grounds of his school, Tavistock comprehensive school, west Devon.

The inquiry comes after reports that Darren Wixon was photographed with a hangman's rope around his neck in a special projects exercise supervised by his art teacher.

Doctor's delay
Magistrates at Maldon, Essex, yesterday further adjourned the hearing of a drink-driving charge against Dr Robert Jones, of Coggeshall, Essex, until December 14. Dr Jones, aged 41, is also accused of careless driving.

Lee evidence
Bruce Lee, who is appealing against his 1981 conviction for the manslaughter of 26 people in 11 cases of arson, is due to give evidence for the first time in a court today.

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Tough nut to oversee big shake-up

By Mark Rosselli

Mr Duncan Black has been given a tough nut to crack as the man named on Tuesday as Britain's next tourism chief.

His brief is to rationalize the two agencies, possibly with a merger, and to produce administrative savings while at the same time continuing to supply the help and guidance that has made tourism Britain's most successful growth industry in the past two decades.

Fortunately, Mr Black is something of a tough nut himself, according to Mr Norman Lamont, the Minister of State for Industry with responsibility for tourism.

Speaking to reporters on Tuesday, Mr Lamont said he had been looking for a hard-headed and successful man from outside the British tourism industry, who could dispassionately review the work of the two agencies.

"What we wanted was a tough businessman who would



Mr Black: Outsider with impressive record.

be able to merge these organizations and make sure some of the economies were realized."

He found one in Mr Black, aged 56. He was educated at Tamworth School, he served with the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve from 1944 to 1947, joined John Swire and Sons in 1948, and gradually rose to

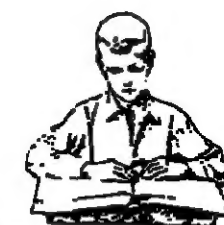
eminence after working in Japan, Thailand and the Caribbean.

Since 1981 he has been chairman of John Swire and Sons (Hongkong) Ltd, Swire Pacific Ltd, Swire Properties Ltd, and Cathay Pacific Airways.

All have done remarkably well since he took over. Swire Pacific, for example, is the fourth largest company in Hongkong with interests in transport (including aviation), property and industry. Last year net profit after tax was \$281m, on a turnover of \$675m.

Sir Henry Marking, the retiring chairman of the BTA, said: "He is a likeable man with a very pleasant manner, and I think he is a very good choice."

"First of all, he is used to running big business, so he will be a good manager. He is a man with lots of commonsense and experience - not only of business. You want somebody who can take a very broad view."



Print union told to observe law

NGA DISPUTE

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, told the Commons that the conduct seen on the mass picket of the Stockport Messenger Group of Newspapers plant at Warrington the previous night had place in industrial relations in this country. The law must be observed, he said.

The violence was also deplored by Mr John Smith (Warrington, Labour), who said that the dispute between the newspaper group and the National Graphical Association could spread rapidly.

In his statement, Mr King reminded the House that there had been a dispute over the past year between the Stockport Messenger Group of Newspapers and the National Graphical Association in connection with the establishment of closed shop agreements at the firm's subsidised at Warrington and Bury.

As a result of action taken by the union during the dispute, the Messenger Group sought an injunction against the union in the High Court. The injunction was granted requiring the union to desist from organising unlawful industrial action.

The court subsequently found that the injunction was not being observed and imposed a fine of £50,000 on the NGA for breach of the injunction.

The fine has not been paid (said) and I understand that the High Court has now directed that it wishes to deal with the non-payment of the fine on Friday of this week.

There have been intermittent incidents of intimidatory picketing at different plants culminating in the mass picket at Warrington last night. One policeman was seriously injured. I understand a number of arrests have been made.

Criminal charges have already been brought against those involved in earlier incidents and further charges may be made against those arrested last night.

In connection with the substance of the dispute, the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Service has already been involved in seeking to assist the parties to a resolution of this dispute. I understand that this conciliation service is seeking to arrange a further meeting of the parties very shortly.

Whatever the arguments in relation to the dispute, I hope that all sides of the House will join with me in deploring the disgraceful behaviour that occurred at Warrington last night, to reaffirm that such conduct has no place in industrial relations in this country, and that the law must be observed.

Mr Fergus Montgomery (Aldershot and Sale, C), who raised the issue by a private question, said workers were offered the right to join or not join the NGA. The union had a chance to put their case and after a secret ballot the workers

decided they did not want to join this union.

The union have now accepted this particular point and the point of difference seems to be the employment of the six people who withdrew their labour. On Sunday there was a 13 hour meeting between the two parties and Acas.

The employees in this organization are not happy to have these people back because for 20 weeks they have suffered harassment and intimidation from these people and their union bully boys.

Why did we enact the 1982 Employment Act if it is to be ignored by people like this? I hope the Government will make its position clear.

Mr King: I hope the further meeting that Acas are seeking to arrange may be helpful in resolving the core of this dispute.

I hope Mr Smith was not equivocating in any way on what I took to be his categorical denial of violent picketing. The TUC have issued a statement condemning the use of violence. I hope Mr Smith will use his good offices and that of his friends to ensure every effort is made to prevent any recurrence of an incident of this kind.

Mr Douglas Hoyle (Warrington North, Lab): This is not in the constituency of Mr Montgomery who is interfering in my constituency. The bully boys in this case have been brought in by a paramilitary army of thugs with dogs and that inflamed passions. That is the reason violence occurred.

There could have been an agreement; he has admitted the union has been flexible and the TUC has been backing the union in this case because he brought in a paramilitary army of thugs with dogs and that inflamed passions. That is the reason violence occurred.

Mr King: I am not going to enter into the merits of this dispute, which is a matter to be discussed by Acas.

It is distressing that he could get to his feet and not utter a single word of criticism about the scenes of violence which took place and which have no part in proper industrial relations in this country.

Mr Kenneth Lewis (Stamford and Spalding, C): Many of those picketing at the factory gate came from other parts of the country and were members of other unions, in fairness to the NGA, and it is against the law they should do that.

Mr King: Since the company concerned only employs 120 people, a picket of 1,000 or more must be in total breach of the present law. It is well known and accepted by all parties and all governments that intimidation and obstruction are criminal offences and have no place in peaceful picketing.

Mr Ronald Delbridge (Newham North East, Lab): We are dealing with an employer who reneges on agreements and the NGA has been over backwards in this case to the extent that it accepts that employees at Bury and Warrington stay in their jobs and only new employees will be members of the union.

Seven members of the NUJ who had taken industrial action have been taken back by the employer, but the six members of the NGA have refused to take back - that is the sole issue in dispute.

It would be a pity to get an industrial Armageddon over six men. Not only will be bad for industrial relations but I am afraid

because what is at stake is no more than the jobs of the six NGA members dismissed by Mr Shah.

Mr King would revive the old Ministerial Labour tradition of putting his weight behind conciliation and the resolution of the dispute as quickly as possible.

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the state will be bringing off more than it can chew.

Mr Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C): In a democracy the law must be observed. The law which passes the law must be the end of the road.

Mr King: That is what I have been seeking to reinforce today because trade unions enjoy certain rights and privileges of immunity under the law and which are protected by the law. It is for as much in their interests that the law should be observed as it is for them to insist that their members should observe the law.

I trust that the TUC, having come out with a condemnation of violent behaviour, will take every positive step to ensure that no such events occur again.

Mr Robert Parry (Liverpool, Riverside, Lab): I had a long meeting last Saturday with the full-time secretary and officials of the NGA, where there were strong allegations about police brutality against the pickets.

A number of pickets have suffered head and leg injuries and concussion. One person has a fractured shoulder bone. Will be ask the Home Secretary to have words with the Cheshire Police for a cooling off of tempers.

Mr King: I regret the injury to a police officer in the early hours of this morning. If action is not taken to cool this down, it will turn out to be the Grumwick of the north.

Mr King: If there are complaints, there is a proper procedure which should be observed because nobody should condone that. Anything Mr Parry can do to discourage the assembly of pickets should be encouraged.

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Mr King: I am aware of reports of ballots in both plants and reports which have said that the majority was against membership of the NGA. That is part of the background to the dispute. My interest in the matter is to see that the dispute about recognition or the closed shop issue is resolved in a proper way.

I am not prepared to condone and neither will the Government illegal or intimidatory picketing.

Mr Martin O'Neill (Chesham, Lab): My union, the NGA, regrets that anyone has been injured in the dispute but also recognizes that the TUC this morning has supported the NGA in the core issue - victimization of the six former members of the NGA who have refused to renege. The trade union movement would greatly appreciate it if Mr King would ensure that his officials acted as constructively as possible in securing conciliation of the dispute.

Mr King: Acas, which is independent, is seeking a settlement. I hope that Mr O'Neill will use his good offices in ensuring that the NGA, pursuing an industrial dispute, as it is entitled to do, will do it within the law.

● After the statement had been repeated in the House of Lords, the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State, Privy Council Office, said: Acas has a role but nothing Acas can do can prevail against those who not only deliberately break the law but continue to encourage their members to do so. This is unforgivable and the Government will not remain silent. The Alliance will spare no effort to secure it.

We remain convinced that an agreement is possible and that it remains in the interests of East and West that the negotiations should resume at the earliest possible date. We therefore urge the Soviet Union to demonstrate an equally sincere commitment to arms control by returning to the negotiating table.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said the statement was disturbing. The British Government had been arguing for four years that the moment the West began to deploy cruise and Pershing missiles, agreement would be reached in the disarmament talks.

It is clear (he continued) that it could not have been more wrong. In fact, as the Soviet Government frequently warned, it has produced a breakdown in the talks. The country minister suggests that responsibility for the breakdown lies exclusively with the Soviet Government. But the British Government's refusal to allow its Polaris force to be included in the balance has been a major obstacle to the talks until last week. Only last week the Soviet Government at the last moment offered not to include British and French nuclear forces in the balance and to reduce the number of SS20s to half those deployed in 1979, and the

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This scheme (he said) is a solemn contract between generations and will the minister give an unequivocal public commitment he will take his solemn hands off it?

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, moved the Government amendment congratulating the Government for successive increases in retirement pensions which had increased the purchasing power of pensioners since 1975. He recognized the success of Government economic policies in reducing and controlling inflation and noting that the greatest single threat to the security, savings and living standards of pensioners would be the reversal of those policies.

Although occupational pensions matters were generally negotiated between and financed by employers and employees, the Government had a role to play. Most employees in occupational schemes had no option but to join the scheme as part of their contract of service. The Government could not turn a blind eye to any situation in which members might find themselves joining schemes with apparently favourable terms only to find the unfavourable terms should they later leave that job.

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Britain sees no justification for walk-out by Soviet Union

DISARMAMENT

The Government regretted the decision of the Soviet Union to withdraw from the intermediate nuclear forces talks in Geneva and could see no justification for it, Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs said in a statement to the Commons.

He said that the Russians might justify their interruption of the talks by the final preparation for initial western INF deployment. But the West had remained at the conference table while the Soviet Union had increased its own deployment of SS20s by more than 40 per cent.

The Nato alliance (he continued) has made its first priority the achievement of a balanced and verifiable agreement to reduce and if possible eliminate these weapons worldwide. At the same time we have made it clear that until such an agreement can be attained the Alliance will proceed in accordance with its decision of 1979 to work towards a balance which would safeguard western security.

We will not be deflected from achieving the first stage of this objective by the end of this year. But I wish to stress that the Alliance remains ready to halt or reverse at any time the deployment of the missiles if only we can secure an agreement with the Soviet Union which would allow us to do so.

The achievement of such an agreement remains our unshakable objective. The Alliance will spare no effort to secure it.

We remain convinced that an agreement is possible and that it remains in the interests of East and West that the negotiations should resume at the earliest possible date. We therefore urge the Soviet Union to demonstrate an equally sincere commitment to arms control by returning to the negotiating table.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said the statement was disturbing. The British Government had been arguing for four years that the moment the West began to deploy cruise and Pershing missiles, agreement would be reached in the disarmament talks.

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A QUARTET ORIGINAL

Spain clips army's wings as opposition gives its reluctant approval

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's ruling Socialists and the right-wing opposition have agreed to some fundamental reforms of the country's armed forces, proposed in a Bill which yesterday began its passage through Parliament. As a so-called "basic law", it must receive a two-thirds majority.

Named the "Serra Reforms" after Señor Narciso Serra, the Defence Minister, the Bill represents the biggest shake-up of Spain's still politically sensitive armed forces since they ceased to be the backbone of the Franco regime.

The Bill tries to clear up ambiguities about the supposed residual autonomous power of the armed forces by putting them firmly under the control of the Prime Minister, while creating the post of chief of the defence staff.

It will replace a timid Centre Democrat law of 1980 which left loopholes notably exploited by the army plotters of the 1981 coup attempt, and end the continuing diffusion of power among the three services, still almost three "ministries".

The right-wing Popular Alliance at first accepted the reforms, defended by Señor Serra as essential if Spain is to have forces capable of fighting an external enemy like other European nations. But the opposition then began voicing a series of objections, interpreted here as responding to pressure

from its supporters, including those in the armed forces.

Not all the differences have been ironed out and the Bill still has to complete its course through Parliament under urgency procedures the Government has ordered. Señor Serra wants to name the first chief of defence staff early in the new year.

The assertion of political control is one of the points in the Bill objected to by the



Señor Serra: Reward for patience

opposition, particularly as it appeared to restrict the prerogatives of King Juan Carlos as commander-in-chief.

The king's unique stature and close personal relationship with the three services makes this a delicate issue for all parties.

Señor Serra, known as an

admirer of the king, said on television recently that it was an advantage that the monarch's powers under the 1978 constitution are not defined too precisely.

The Socialists have agreed there will be no changes in the king's existing powers. A grey area apparently remains, since the chief of defence staff would in wartime assume direct operational charge of all three services.

The opposition has in return agreed to accept the Socialists' demotion of the cumbersome joint chiefs of staff, headed by a fourth chairman, to a purely advisory role.

Señor Serra has been criticized for going slowly in his first year. But the creation of a defence ministry with real power devolving on the chief of defence staff, with control of the purse strings, personnel, arms purchases and the national defence plan, represents the main test of the patient Catalan's strategy.

He hopes to have the Defence Ministry functioning in one building, Franco's old Tourism and Information Ministry in the Castellana, Madrid's main thoroughfare, during the first half of next year.

No agreement has, however, been reached with the opposition over the reduction of Spain's nine military regions to five or six.

Life in the shadow of apocalypse

In the first of two articles on Zambia, Stephen Taylor examines President Kenneth Kaunda's pragmatic approach to the divisive issues in southern Africa.

While discussing his reelection as Zambia's President for a fifth term last month, Dr Kaunda took time to pour tea for about 30 guests on the immaculate lawn of Lusaka's State House, where antelope and peacocks wander in a setting of colonial splendour. "It's a rule," he said "Nobody leaves before drinking my tea."

ZAMBIA Part 1

After 19 years at the helm in Zambia, KK's personal style - a blend of disarming humility, deviousness, informality, and occasional ruthlessness - has left its stamp on a nation that has become one of Africa's more open and tolerant one-party states. In the redrawn lines of conflict in southern Africa, he has also demonstrated a pragmatism which could keep lines of communication open between his more ideologically hard-line neighbours.

The reasons lie in recent history. A landlocked nation in the heart of Central Africa, Zambia has eight countries on its frontiers. In the past decade there has been full-blown war in four of them - Rhodesia, Mozambique, Angola and Namibia - and sporadic border troubles with a fifth, Zaire.

A Western diplomat says "Zambians have learnt their vulnerability the hard way. It tends to make them cautious



KK: Unmistakable personal style of pragmatism (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

and sensible in foreign policy. They won't sup with the Devil, but they will talk to him."

Alone among the heads of the frontline states, President Kaunda has shown a preparedness to meet the hated South African leadership. Last year he met Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, under a marula tree. In 1974 his negotiations with the late John Vorster as an intermediary proved a watershed in Rhodesia, leading to the release of detained nationalists like Mr Robert Mugabe and Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The Rhodesian guerrilla war, which subsequently intensified, caused Zambia deep suffering. In a recent interview with *The Times*, President Kaunda said: "We were the front line". The pattern of that conflict may serve broadly as a model for future events in southern Africa: the defences of a poor, black nation playing host to nationalist guerrillas were wholly inadequate to prevent air raids and routine incursions by hardened ground forces of a desperate white administration. The closure of southern trade routes shattered a wobbly economy.

The front line has moved south now and President Kaunda speaks with the benefit of

having been removed from the sharp end, but his view is none the less apocalyptic.

"When the explosion comes (in South Africa) it will make the French Revolution look like a Sunday picnic", he says. "Millions could die, unless the West forces Pretoria to change".

Resolution of the Rhodesian conflict across the Zambezi has fully restored the friendship with Britain, although relations with the Mugabe Government have never become warm because of Zambia's earlier support for Mr Nkomo. Matters were not improved by a deliberate snub to KK on his last official visit to Harare when amid great pomp and ceremony the Zimbabweans named Railway Avenue, one of the city's shabbiest roads, after the Zambian leader.

Paramount now, he says is Namibian independence and the establishment of a non-racial society in Southern Africa.

The summit with Mr Botha must be regarded as a failure, the South Africans having ignored requests to release Mr Nelson Mandela and Mr Walter Sisulu. The imprisoned ANC leaders who along with Mr Oliver Tambo, the peripatetic ANC president, were sometimes resident here.

But in spite of the criticism he received from Mr Mugabe and President Nyerere of Tanzania over the meeting, he has no regrets and believes the South Africans learn from contact with black leaders. "I would do it again without hesitation if I thought there would be a useful upshot," he says.

Tomorrow: The economy

Aborigines want mines not tourists

From Tony Duboulin Melbourne

Traditional Aboriginal land owners in the Northern Territory seem likely to come into conflict with the Federal Government over uranium mining. They have told Canberra that they want mining to go ahead.

On Tuesday, a meeting of more than 300 traditional owners instructed the Northern Land Council, an advisory body, to tell the Government that the proposed mines at Jabiruka and Koongarra should be allowed to proceed and not be included in a national park as Canberra proposes.

Mr Jacob Nayingul, a field officer with the council, said later that the traditional owners opposed the Government's incorporation of the two mines into the Kakadu National Park, about 140 miles south-east of Darwin, which is on the world heritage list. This effectively stops their development and is in line with Labour Party policy which calls for the phasing out of uranium mining.

"They want the mines, not a park", Mr Nayingul said. "The people said if they could not get the mines they would seek the equivalent amount of money that they would have received from them".

Plans outlined by Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, on Friday called for \$A70m (about £43m) to be spent over six years to develop tourism in the region.

Karen rebels set terms for freeing hostages

From Neil Kelly Bangkok

Anti-Government Burmese rebels yesterday announced new conditions for the release of a young Frenchman and his wife held hostage for five weeks at a jungle base near the Thai-Burmese border.

A spokesman for the Karen rebels said the couple would be put on trial for "collaborating with the enemy" unless France agreed to recognize the legitimacy of the Karen National Union and either stopped aid to the Burmese Government or began providing aid to the Karens.

The terms were conveyed to delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which was asked by France to act as a go-between.

General Bo Mya, leader of the rebel group, said that he expected a reply from France by Friday.

The general insists that the capture of Jacques Bossu, aged 26, and his wife, Martine, aged 24, was not a kidnapping but part of a political campaign against the Burmese Government. M Bossu was one of six French engineers working on a cement plant. The Karens have been in rebellion for more than 30 years.

Philippine ferry capsizes

Manila - A Philippines passenger ferry with 300 people on board capsized and sank off the southern island of Mindanao and almost 60 people are feared drowned (Keith Dalton writes).

Search and rescue operations are continuing for possible survivors from the Dona Cassandra which sank on Monday near Nasipit island, of Agusan Del Sur province, 550 miles south of Manila.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

New York

Is there any serious international pressure on Britain to negotiate with Argentina over the future of the Falklands? For the second year running, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution last week calling for talks between the two countries on the sovereignty of the island. Once again, it offered no reasonable basis for negotiations, referring only to the interest and not the wishes of the Falklanders.

But UN resolutions often require a degree of delicate interpretation. So before the vote was taken, I talked here to the representatives of a number of countries. They were in many instances, the same people with whom I had discussed this question a year ago when essentially the same resolution was passed.

I was able to judge if there had been any change in the diplomatic atmosphere in the meantime. I have also subsequently discovered the American attitude in Washington.

If one were simply to go by the voting figures in the General Assembly, one might conclude that nothing had changed from last year. There were 87 votes for the resolution compared with 90 last year; nine votes against, compared with 12, and 54 rather than 52 abstentions.

This was encouraging for Britain. A UN resolution that is passed with so many abstentions loses much of its force. The outcome was even better than might have been expected because there had been some speculation that France and Italy might this year have voted for the resolution. But once again, they abstained.

Yet it is not quite the same as last year. The issue itself arouses less excitement. There will nearly always be a majority at the United Nations in favour of negotiations, any negotiations anywhere. But whereas, the Falklands were last year regarded as a major international question - though even then there was no expectation that there would be early action on the call for negotiations - by now, it has been overtaken by other crises.

No cause for British alarm

There will, however, soon be some new moves by the United States, which may cause some anxiety in London. A strong delegation is expected to be sent from Washington to the inauguration of the new Argentine President, and the embargo on arms sales to Argentina is likely to be lifted.

I believe it would be a mistake for British opinion to become alarmed by these developments. The United States is not about to provide supplies for a new invasion of the Falklands. There will still be careful controls through certification of the type of arms sold to Argentina.

The lifting of the embargo will be essentially symbolic, and a further gesture of friendliness towards the new democratic regime.

Gestures of friendliness can be taken too far. For concessions of substance in the hope of making Argentine democracy more secure might encourage the Argentines to imagine that they would get away with anything. For Britain to be expected to behave as if Argentine democracy was already secure, would be even worse.

But I found a more widespread appreciation than I had expected at the United Nations that Argentine democracy has as yet, no deep roots.

In due course, Britain will be expected to reopen a dialogue with Argentina. But there is no good reason to resist that idea, provided that the right conditions for talks are established.

If Argentina were no longer to regard itself as being in a state of hostilities with Britain, would simply need to avoid a commitment to negotiating over the sovereignty of the islands as the climax to such a dialogue.

Limited Discussions of this nature, with no obligation to touch the question of sovereignty, would not meet the requirements of the UN resolution. But that would not matter. International opinion and British interest would alike be satisfied by the former belligerents simply talking.

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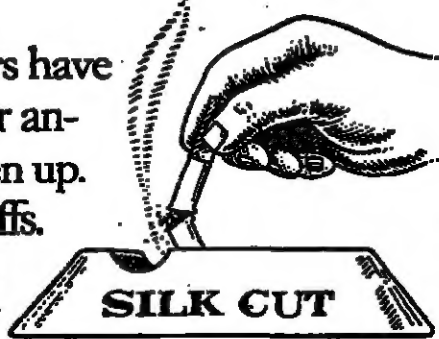
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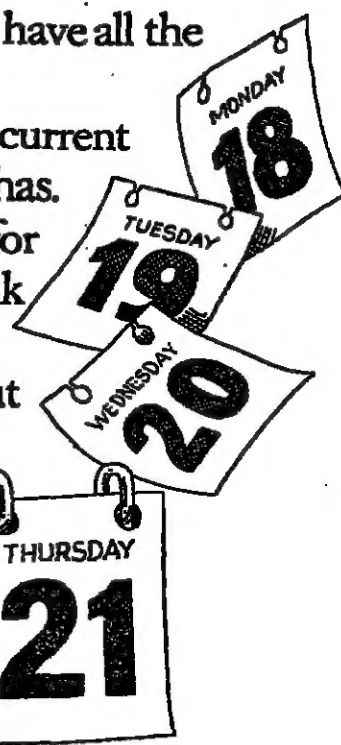
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[illegible]

THE ARTS

Concerts

Curiosity premiere

Britten 70th Birthday Wigmore Hall

Lest we forget, ever, that Benjamin Britten was born on the feastday of the patron saint of music, Blessed Cecilia was invoked (via Auden of course) by Sir Peter Pears at the start of a 70th birthday celebration on Tuesday night, organized by the Britten-Pears Foundation.

It became obvious, even in the company of the faithful, that it was not every day that she chose to stardom composing mortals with immortal fire. The curiosity of the programme, a group of unpublished song-cycles, remained little more than a curiosity. Neil Mackie, accompanied by Iain Burnside, enjoyed Thomas Hardy's laconic narrative of the folly of human egotism in "The Children and Sir Nameless", rose to the sprightly, observant tarian settings of three rhymes by William Soutar, and sunk to the dismally cloying "Not even summer yet" by Peter Burra.

The Edith Sitwell Canticle

"Still falls the Rain" was eloquently performed by Mackie and Burnside with Richard Watkins, horn, but gained little by being set in the context of three supplementary and inferior Sitwell settings, punctuated by readings of her work by Sir Peter - an idea adapted from an Aldeburgh Festival programme of 1956 and not repeated since then.

The high point of the evening, in both creation and recreation, was Nicholas Daniel's performance, with Julius Drake, of the 1936 *Temporal Variations* for oboe and piano. Mr Daniel's intensely focussed playing conveyed chillingly its disquieting and prophetic message in its "Oration", its numb "Choral" and its frighteningly mordant, Shostakovich-like waltz and polka.

Another early work, the *Three Divertimenti*, had begun the evening, and the String Quartet No 3 from 1975 ended it, both in performances of a both in illuminating wit and beauty from the Brodsky Quartet.

Hilary Finch

Hotch-potch Day

ECO/Mackerras Festival Hall/Radio 3

Fresh (no, perhaps that is not quite the right word) from their long tour of America, the English Chamber Orchestra and Sir Charles Mackerras returned to the Festival Hall on Tuesday for the Royal Concert, that curious occasion, this year, as last, a musical hotch-potch, with which St Cecilia's Day is celebrated.

The hotch-potch comes about because too many performers have to be accommodated: here it was the Kneller Hall Trumpeters, who muscled in with a Suite from Susato's *Dances* played with blaring chords and some too-accurate solos in a style that would have seemed old-fashioned even if it had not been for the poignant memories it conjured up of David Munrow's advocacy of these pieces.

For the ECO, as for us all - if I may make so bold as to speak for the Duchess of Gloucester - the novelty of the evening was the National Anthem. Elgar, Britten (memorably), and Ives have had a go at it, so there is no reason why Sir Charles Mackerras should not do so, too.

Though an introductory Hornpipe from the *Water Music* made me think for a moment that we were in for a

Handelian *Pineapple Poll* (now there is a thought), Mackerras's arrangement simply twiddled around attractively with the notes in a mid-eighteenth century manner, making good use of the two oboe-and-born choirs that were on hand.

They also shone in Mackerras's rolled-together, too-long conflation of Handel's *Concerti a due cori*, which bustled happily along without the exciting weight of his recording



Mackerras bustling

with the LSO; the splendid ground bass variations went best.

There was also Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony, which included a Pilgrim's March with a nice, natural pulse; and Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto, in which Vladimir Ashkenazy was typically forceful but unsurprisingly unreluctant.

Nicholas Kenyon

It is subtitled "Pied Piper Fantasy" and proved, in the end, to be a piece of music theatre, with the soloist, James Galway, in a red-and-gold creation that one has to assume was an authentic Pied Piper costume. The story, with modifications by the composer, provided ample opportunities for illustrative music, and Hamlyn's rats scampering through every department of the orchestra, gave rise to some highly inventive orchestration. Some of it, in fact, was rather too inventive, occasionally rendering Mr Galway inaudible, both on flute and, later, on tin whistle.

Eventually, his pipings were answered by numerous juvenile flautists in the audience, who gathered together on the stage and were led out of the hall by Mr Galway. Corigliano's concerto was, then, quite amusing, but its music was impersonal, lacking the sort of memorability which plausibly would explain its supposedly hypnotic effect first on Hamlyn's rats and then on the town's children. There is another performance tonight at 7.15.

Max Harrison

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Pantomime with affection: Antonia Ellis, Alfred Marks and Geoffrey Hutchings in *Poppy*

Victorian morality lesson

Poppy Adelphi

With increasingly nervous sounds coming from Hongkong, and Downing Street raising a banner to Victorian morality, Peter Nichols's music history of the nineteenth-century opium war seems a good deal closer to home than on its first appearance at the Barbican last year.

The fact that Britain's part in carrying the opium trade to China has been neatly erased from patriotic memory partly explains why Nichols decided to tell the story in the ultra-patriotic form of a Christmas pantomime.

More to the point, recent British history has shown that jingoism is alive and well, as a natural companion with the doctrine of free trade.

Public events apart, this is much clearer in the Adelphi version than it was in the original production. Gone is the exotic extravaganza of Farah's Barbican stage, and in its place is a translucent walkdown, and a simple sequence of flown pieces and projected backdrops. Recast, partly rewritten, and with three new numbers, the show is now much closer to a conventional Christmas show.

Nichols wanted to begin with a *four-naïf* entertainment, and then show it going wrong. What is now abundantly clear is that, besides turning pantomime to his own purposes, he also has a genuine affection for it.

Beginning on the village green with a mass exodus of the unemployed to seek their fortune in the market places of the world, Poppy dispatches

Squire Dick and his mother (principal boy and drama) out East for a series of adventures that are perfectly in keeping with Victorian extravaganza - even though they have the effect of turning the fresh-faced young Dick into a hard-faced bully, and his beloved Sally into a dope-addict.

Nichols uses all the traditional routines. The experience of opium is conveyed in a hallucinatory transformation ballet; audience participation serves for a re-enactment of the British sacking of the imperial summer palace, with two sides of the house gunning each other down in Monty Norman's deadly pastiche of the old music hall. Mr Norman elsewhere turns in similarly expert echoes of Gilbert and Sullivan, and a rousing Kipling-esque march outlining the inexorable ad-

vance of the East India Company. The show is still brilliantly clever as in presenting the Foreign Secretary, literally, as a ventriloquist's doll, but never at the expense of the story.

With the exception of Geoffrey Hutchings's carnivorously affable Dame, the show has been largely recast.

Alfred Marks, the buccannering merchant, releases the part into full-blooded life of a *Punch* ogre; Antonia Ellis's Dick has legs to match her predecessor, and a fearsome ravenous grin; best of all, is Nicola McAuliffe's Victoria, a smirking monarch with hooting top notes, subsequently undergoing transformation into a fully armed Britannia and a Salvation Army drug-pusher.

Irving Wardle

Dance

Pace, humour and lots of drive

Run Like Thunder Sadler's Wells

There was I, two-thirds of the way through London Contemporary Dance Theatre's opening programme at Sadler's Wells on Tuesday, thinking that what we had seen was all very worthy and ably danced, but not at all exciting, and that what this company needed was a work with some sense of theatre and a more adventurous use of movement. Then came the London premier of Tom Jobe's new piece, and I saw that he had exactly the same idea.

A programme note tells us that *Run Like Thunder* takes Appalachian square dances as the thematic basis of both music and choreography. No-

body could ever call Jobe a square, but he has found a novel treatment in conjunction with the composer Barrington Pheloung. The music in fact, was realized on a computer in the studios of City University (it is the first time an engineer has shared the programme credits for a new score) and is performed by the computer, so perhaps somebody from the finance and technology pages should be reviewing it. In the absence of such expertise, I will say only that computers can make a fair go of supplying the sound of a scrappy fiddle, and that although it does not replace the caller with complete intelligibility, it does at least provide quasi-vocal sounds like a friendly inter-galactic robot.

The dances are in Jobe's familiar mix of styles, combin-

ing the virtuosic partnering of the dance studio with the flip manner of the disco and the energy of an exercise class. Paul Dart has dressed the cast in a chic version of aerobics or gymnastic uniforms, all silver, grey and black with red and blue highlights, backed by a huge sheet of numbers (hand-scrawled, half-printed), and with glowing squares underfoot - rectangles, actually, but you get the allusion.

The choreographic style is much as before, but far more ambitiously organized than in Jobe's earlier works, and correspondingly more satisfying. Chunky little Anne Went has what looks like the Jobe role, with fast, slippery transitions and couldn't-care-less should-ers. Anita Griffin and Michael

Small dance a tough, athletic duet, and there is a zippy quartet for Linda Gibbs, Salie Este, Jonathan Luna and Darshan Bhuller, besides opening and closing ensembles that state the square dance theme more explicitly although still in a personal way.

The first-night audience was one to surprise anyone who remembers the company's almost improvised and revolutionary beginnings, not so many years back: full of dress shirts, black ties and mayoral chains complete with rosette (Princess Michael of Kent) and a government minister (Lord Gower). The pace, humour and drive of *Run Like Thunder* had the house laughing and cheering.

John Percival

Huddersfield Festival

Northern Music Theatre

St. Paul's, Huddersfield

Perhaps because of its very protean nature, music theatre is not a genre that keeps companies in business for long. Of British ventures, only the Fires of London has much of a history, and that partly because it has an outstanding practitioner as its house composer, Maxwell Davies, partly because it exists, too, for less risky purposes. On Sunday night it brought a programme of chamber music to Huddersfield, leaving dance and drama to be supplied two days later by Northern Music Theatre.

It is a new troupe, founded only two years ago, but already it has enough professionalism to plant itself firmly on the map, and enough energy and versa-

tility to make music theatre more than a period curiosity. Its festival contribution was most encouraging. In the first half it presented rare works by the three leading German authors of music theatre - Kagel, Stockhausen, and Henze - including what was claimed as the first staged performance of the last's *Labrynth* of 1951. In the second half, there was something completely new: Philip Grange's *The Kingdom of Bones*. The Kagel was his *pas de deux* niftily executed by five gents in white suits with canes and straw hats. David Saver, the director, put it over as a softshoe shuffle for a quintet of *Fires* Astaires.

The joke is that the rhythm of feet and sticks is the only music, and, though like all Kagel jokes, it becomes therefore long before the end, this performance kept it going as long as humanly possible, which was

for about three of the 10 minutes.

Another victory of artistry over common sense followed in Lesly Schatzberger's enactment of Stockhausen's *Little Harlequin*, a separable episode from his *Harlequin* for dancing clarinetist. Miss Schatzberger wisely ignored the composer's preference for a costume in lozenges and appeared as a slim and simple clown, an effective persona for a performance of charm, happiness and skill. Henze's *Labrynth* afterwards was a more normal ballet, with the brief chamber orchestral score used to underpin a wrestling match between Theseus, looking like a bathing beauty out of a Cocteau film and the Minotaur. And here I must apologize to Anthony Pay who rather than Henze himself, as I misremembered the other day, directed last year's performance of *Le Miracle de la rose* by the London Sinfonietta.

The NMT programme ended with the only sung piece of the evening, the new Grange, in which some may have been disappointed to find the words in Russian. Not me. As Grange notes, the dark colour of the Russian language is well suited to his material - this is, like Schoenberg's *Erwartung*, a monodrama for a woman in extremis, though one who has lost her child rather than her lover.

Moreover, the impenetrability of the text left one free to register the full force and fitness of Grange's music, while at the same time it spurred Linda Hirst to a performance of commanding urgency and truth. This was a highly controlled, richly imaginative slice of musical-theatrical experience, adding much to the growing reputations of both company and composer.

Paul Griffiths

Television

"Apparently they found something unusual in the lake" were some of the first words in Chessgame (Granada) - not a body, for once, but an aeroplane. There was a body in it, of course, but fortunately it was not that of Terence Stamp - although he must have been wondering why he was not mercifully spared the rest of the plot. Mr Stamp is an excellent actor, even if he does wear a permanently worried expression. His major anxiety on this occasion, however, was to

lead credence to the plot in which he is a "Middle East pundit", and to breathe life into a script which described one Israeli spy, for example, as "a thinking man's Simon Wiesenthal". Mr Stamp improvised with pauses and sudden grimaces, but he was clearly becoming desperate.

The story had the customary scenes: a funeral (one knows the burial service by heart from watching "spy thrillers" on television), some epicene civil servants, suspicious foreigners

who turn up in the most unexpected places, a corpse or two, and then of course the Moscow master-spy knocking back the vodka - "Not the Igor Panin!" All the familiar faces appeared also - not the George Pravda playing a Russian spy again - since in such circumstances the actors have to be as reassuring as the plot.

It seems improbable that the people who commission such a series do not realize how pedestrian it is, which makes it

more difficult to understand their decision to spend so much money on bringing secondhand material to an already jaded public. Lack of imagination or enterprise? A purblind reliance on formulae which were successful in the 1970s? Or perhaps they really believe that international affairs are best understood in terms of melodrama. On the model of *World in Action*. It does not bear thinking about.

Peter Ackroyd

Theatre: London and Minneapolis

Teetering Pintilie

The Seagull Guthrie, Minneapolis

Clipping a bird's wing can cripple it. Making his American debut at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Lucian Pintilie more than clips *The Seagull*. In his manifest zeal to make both the text and subject of Chekhov's play soar, the Romanian director miscalculates and writes its neck.

Mr Pintilie's version, based on Jean-Claude van Hallie's translation, begins midway into the fourth act. The superstitious Madame Arkadina (Lois Smith) screams then she discovers three candles on the gaming table, removes one, and the characters play, observed by Konstantin (David Pierce). At the mention of the seagull, chimes sound and a haggard Nina (Mary Beth Fisher) is seen through the designer Radu Boruzescu's smoky two-way mirror sliding screens behind the Guthrie's thrust stage.

After the gamblers wander off and their table sinks below as if to a grave, Konstantin and Nina play out most of their fourth act scene, sitting on the stage floor while the one chair left bars intruders from a non-existent door. At the point when Nina recalls her speech in Konstantin's play, the lakeside stage glides on through parted screens and the fiasco of the play is enacted as if in a nightmare, with Arkadina making her criticisms while sailing back and forth in a swing suspended from the flies. After Konstantin stops his play, Masha and her hapless suitor take up the beginning of Act I.

The concept of the action viewed from Konstantin's memory is often very effective, particularly when he stands miserably watching the scenes between Nina and Tregorin (Munson Hicks) and when he pushes his mother in the swing as others discuss her jealousies. A nightmarish perspective must also be the pretext for production elements which teeter between the farcical and the grotesque. The *homme fatale* doctor is embraced by a mistress in the swing and both tumble to the ground, Nina and Arkadina do backward somersaults revealing their blouses, and after Konstantin first tries suicide he and his uncle both faint and the characters dragging them off collide. Sometimes the antics make one think this is *The Marriage Proposal*.

Among the grotesque moments are Konstantin rolling

on and off Nina like a sleepy lover and Arkadina doing the same to Tregorin. Between these sequences, the farcical of which are perhaps aimed at evoking Chekhov's view of the play as a comedy, are scenes played realistically. Exemplary is the Arkadina-Konstantin fight, which begins tenderly and builds to believable and amusing book-throwing fury. Behind much of the action, whatever its mode, are quantities of sounds and sights. Countless offstage gunshots, chimes, gongs, wind and thunder and lightning, and themes sung or played on various instruments are heard. Without Chekhov's text, these accompaniments might be presented as a sound and light show.

Perhaps Pintilie's conception could be more fairly judged



The Seagull from the playwright's point of view: David Pierce as Konstantin and Mary Beth Fisher as Nina

with a stronger cast. Though David Pierce's Konstantin, Michael Egan's *homme fatale*, George Hall as Arkadina's brother and Paul Walker as Masha's pursuer are praiseworthy, the rest strain for effect. The result is neither comedy, tragedy nor bitter-sweet tragedy, but fragments which do not coalesce into a whole. The production is never boring, but neither is it moving. This is a case where a play's sub-text and symbolism have been so oversteered that the audience's imagination is likely to be stifled rather than kindled, as if *The Cherry Orchard* were presented with a string snapping every few minutes.

Holly Hill

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Through a glass colourfully

The Times Profile: John Piper

A woman dressed in garish green steps out of a flinty church and directs me down a very steep hill. On either side and at intervals across the flanking hills spread flaming beech coppices. At the bottom of the hill an old farmhouse, wearing a glittering coat of flint and brick, takes centre stage. It had seemed a dull autumn morning when I left London.

John Piper is 80 on December 13. He has lived at Fawley Bottom, near Henley, since 1935. My sensation of entering a Piper painting as I neared his kingdom immediately and pictorially clarified the most important features of his work. He is a popular painter but not a fashionable one.

The figure who appears in welcoming manner at the farmhouse door reminds me of a very young, very clever undergraduate. He is thin, wears jeans and sweater and seems filled with expectant energy. On closer inspection, his face is drawn by the folds of age into extreme elegance, more so than in the photographs of his youth and middle age. His eyes are exceptionally blue and his hair very white. It is evident at once that the house and many outbuildings are all parts of his working empire. We sit in a converted hay barn, round a heavy iron stove. This is where he paints, hardly a studio as most people imagine and absolutely nothing to do with the de rigueur "North light".

As a boy, he took his "pushbike" round the countryside near Epsom, where he lived, and all along the south coast. He carried the guide *Highways and Byways* and it was his attempt to improve on its illustrations which led him into sketching. Later this aspect of his art was to continue in his relationship with John Betjeman and their shared editorship of the celebrated *Shell Guides*. However, first he was under pressure to follow his father into the family law firm. After his father's death, he felt able to enrol at the Royal College of Art.

There he found himself on what he describes as the "crest of a developing wave". The art world was living through a revolutionary time of change which no young artist could ignore. He took up abstract art to see what it had to offer him. But "I never intended to be a total abstract painter. I liked nature too much." His landscape painting continued but now they were collages, made out of strips of paper often torn up on site.

Nevertheless he and his future second wife, Mfwanwy Evans (he had a short first marriage to a fellow student) edited *Axis*, "A Quarterly Review of Contemporary Non-figurative Painting and Sculpture".

Possibly, the strength of his success as an abstract painter can be gauged by the strength of the anger when he left the movement. "Caddish" is the way it was seen, or so he says now. "The belligerence and antagonism between abstract painting and the rest, round about the war, before, was so strong." This attitude was still prevalent in 1962 when an Arts Council publication described his postwar development as "a nostalgic retreat into insular sensibilities".

John Piper pinpoints the start of the war as the time he gave up abstracts. "I thought it was not a proper activity for

a youngish gentleman to go on practising." He wanted to be "useful". There was also the question of earning money to feed his wife and young son. Each abstract took three or four weeks, which meant not more than 25 completed in a year. "And, of course, I never sold any. And I didn't think that would do. Not that I prostituted my art."

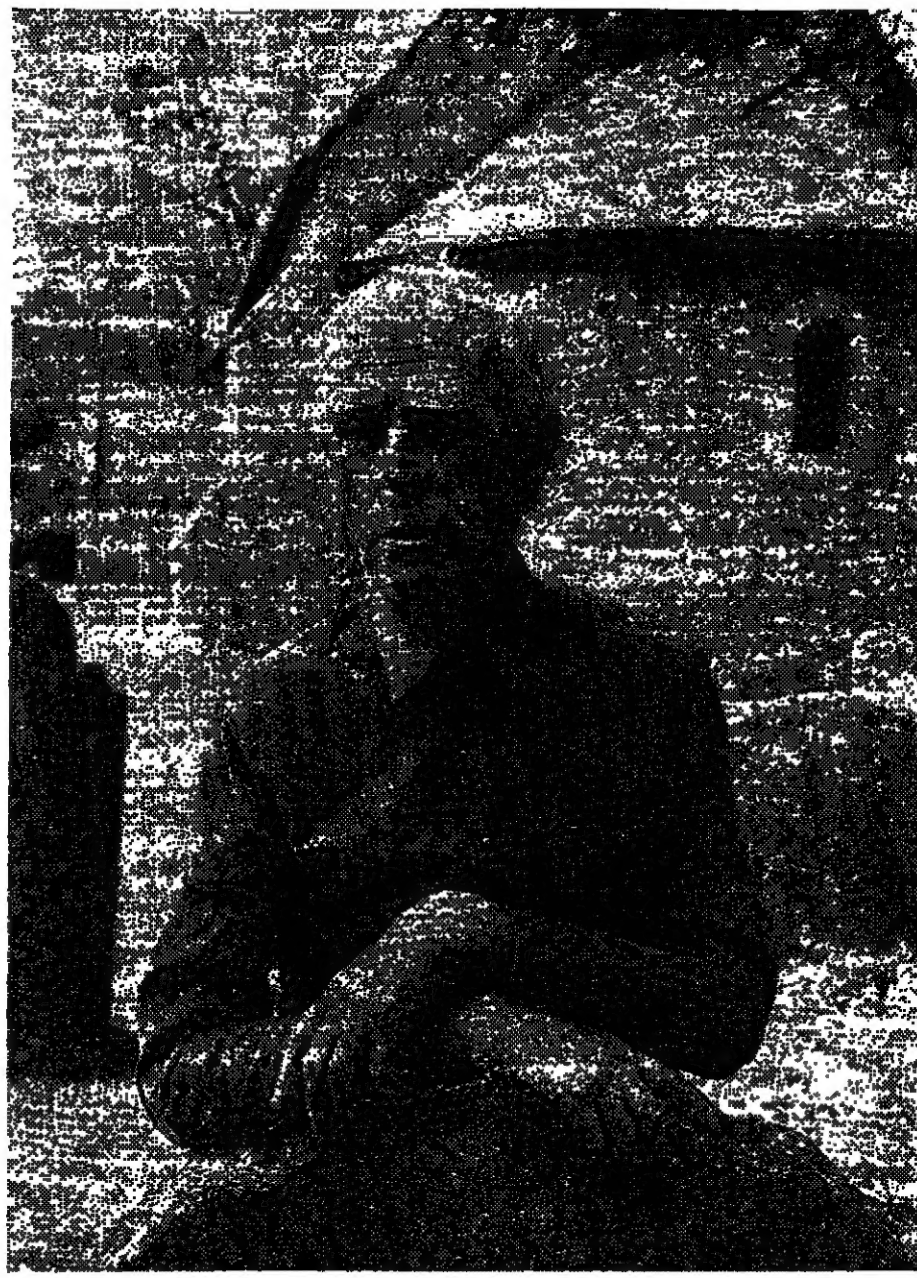
This fate worse than death was avoided by Sir Kenneth Clark's organization of "war artists". Some of Piper's most exciting oils stem from the period when he arrived at a still-burning Coventry or London and painted great cathedrals or cityscapes going through their death-throes. Here was not "pleasing decay" but something more frightening.

It was after the war, in the 1940s and 50s, that Piper became a figure in the art world. He was not only painter, but illustrator, writer, designer of stained glass windows. He was potter, he was stage designer - for the *Sitwells' Facade* and for many of Benjamin Britten's operas - he even designed materials for Liberty. John Piper has long got used to the inference "jack of all trades, master of...". Frankly, he doesn't care. But if pressed, he points to the great artists of his day, Picasso, Braque. It was the tradition in which he grew up. And there was "not a medium they didn't try. Good artists wanted to try everything."

This suggests the artisan's attitude that he brings to his work. He approaches his own and other people's work with simplicity. It is the technicalities of a profession that arouse his enthusiasm. There is the question of light, for example. The subject arises out of my probing his lack of world travel - he has never been in an aeroplane. He points out that Turner never went further than Naples and Constable never went further than the Lake District. He bids me look out of the window. We agree it is all right out there, a nice grey day, what Cezanne called "clear grey". Very typically English, our average. And it is this light, he says, with its high percentage of molecules of water, to which our eyes become accustomed. A painter either exaggerates or reduces colour from this mean. "It ruins an English painter's eye to get a glaring light."

Light naturally leads on to stained glass. Again talking in the most practical terms, Piper explains how he began experimenting in the medium because he wanted to see how colour altered when light came through it instead of reflecting off it. Later, in a second studio, he shows me two new pieces done specially for the show. One announces the birth of Christ, using a medieval onomatopoeic device. Christ is Born. The duck quacks, "quando, quando". The owl hoots "ubi, ubi" and the sheep bleats "Bethlem". He is obviously delighted with it. He points out that stained glass has always been a medium for the "grey countries of northern Europe."

Piper's latest exhibition at the Marlborough will be entitled "Romantic Places" with a detailed yet luxurious painting of his garden on the invitation. ("Not typical," says Tony Reichardt, who nevertheless has quickly bought it for himself). "Romantic"



Piper: mature before abstraction (Photograph by Snowden)

JOHN EGERTON CHRISTMAS PIPER
born December 13 1903
educated Epsom College;
Royal College of Art
1936 published *Shell Guide to Oxfordshire*
1941-42 Queen commissions water colours of Windsor Castle
1948 publishes with John Betjeman *Buckinghamshire Architectural Guide*
1949 *Berkshire Architectural Guide*

1958 Windows of Eton College Chapel
commissioned
1961 Windows and interior of Nuffield College Chapel completed
1962 Coventry Cathedral window completed
1965 Designed tapestry for High Altar, Chichester Cathedral
1969 Designed windows for King George VI Memorial Chapel, Windsor
1976 published *Lincolnshire Churches*

is generally used as a term of criticism, suggesting a vagueness which conveys sentimentality without meaning, surface appeal without intensity. This is the approach that Piper ferociously labels "splash and doodle". He recalls that in 1942 he wrote a short book, *British Romantic Artists*. His editor, Kenneth Clark, suggested a first line: "Romantic Art deals with the particular." Piper feels this describes the core of romantic art and notes, incidentally, that an obsession with the particular is the only thing that saved Turner and Constable from being "splash and doodlers".

The particular of his painting has so often been a church that I want to ask about his own religious convictions. The word "conviction" however, is rejected as being too strong for his faith. "Leaving" might be more appropriate. In fact, both Mfwanwy and John Piper, under John Betjeman's influence, were christened and confirmed at the time of their marriage. They have stayed in the Church of England ever since but, I

gather, only just. Mfwanwy's respect for the English language is offended by the new forms of service and John doesn't much enjoy the people. They look for early morning services. On the other hand, John Piper admits to a few "revelations", hastily amended to "proofs" which hold him to a belief in God. They are not, this definitely stated, to do with his work.

Now Mfwanwy summons us for wild duck and salad. Mfwanwy Piper is part of the Fawley Bottom myth. Everyone talks of her essential presence, her huge mug-decorated kitchen, her inspired cooking. When I asked John Piper what she had contributed to his working life, he immediately suggested "acute intelligence". She is his first critic who has quite simply, always been there. She does have her "natural prejudices", her husband points out with definite pride. There is a particular green, for example, she can't stand. Her own career has been mainly as a librettist. She has just finished the first draft of a new

oratorio. But she misses the close collaboration she once enjoyed with Benjamin Britten.

Despite his literary housewife, the house with its giant-size rooms, its Calder hanging like nursery decoration, its "joyous" Piper pottery (Quentin Bell's apt description), its two studios, crammed with work, past and present, is definitely the house of a painter not a writer. Mfwanwy has written recently: "Although our time is much less our own than it was 40 years ago, it is still, to some extent, lived as it were, largely owing, I think, to John's manipulation of order and chaos, and his very personal mixture of ruthlessness and conscientiousness."



Gouache of St Raphael, Dordogne, 1968

He is a conscientious subject to interview, still willing after our pudding of quince-flavoured apple to show me round the house and garden. Cezanne's "clear grey" has turned to something more threatening, making the autumnal colours even nearer Piper's own sharp tints. The flower beds are filled with dank remains, rows of outside sun-flowers drooping on no longer yellow heads. The desolate vegetable plot reminds Piper of its heyday during the war when they grew all their food. His past poverty is not forgotten. On the other hand this summer they had a gigantic garden party shared with their neighbour John Mortimer, who was celebrating his sixtieth birthday. "Thousands of people and no time to talk to them," murmurs Mfwanwy. They were given £5,000 worth of fireworks, which meant their names were writ large in the sky.

John Piper's eightieth birthday year is bringing him the kind of recognition from the establishment that he has not been previously accorded. His critics will say that this is a peculiarly British tribute paid to survivors. For them he will always remain an illustrator, a one-dimensional painter who has made full use of his vocation to draw attention to the British architectural heritage. His admirers will feel, just as strongly, that he has, at last, lived through the prejudice against non-abstract non-European art and can look forward to an ever-increasing reputation as a major artist.

Meanwhile, the painter himself, surrounded by a kingdom of his own creation, where the intensity of nature echoes his own unremitting concentration, will continue his very particular way.

Rachel Billington

A retrospective exhibition of John Piper's work will be shown at the Tate Gallery from next Wednesday until January 22.

Military support

Fifty-three per cent of the British public are in favour of the multinational military force, drawn from Britain, France, Italy and the United States being stationed in the Lebanon. A third (32 per cent) are opposed, according to a MORI poll taken less than a week after the bombing that killed over 200 American and French troops stationed there. And while 52 per cent opposed the US invasion of Grenada at the time, after the fact 47 per cent thought that the British government should support the presence of US troops there; 38 per cent thought it should be opposed. This "post facto" phenomenon was also seen at the time of the Falklands; after the task force sailed there was a sharp rise in the public's support for action.

Euro-apathy

A recent Euro-Barometer survey, published by the Commission of the European Communities, reports on a survey carried out across the member countries in March and April 1983.

The lack of both interest in and enthusiasm for the European Community in this country is explained largely by the answers to a single question reported in the survey.

Only 32 per cent of people in the United Kingdom feel that Britain has benefited from membership. This compares with 78 per cent of the Dutch, 69 per cent of Italians and over half of the people in Belgium, Denmark, France and Ireland. The majority (57 per cent) of people in the United Kingdom feels this country has the short end of the stick. Whatever the reality is, it is the perceptions that count in assessing public opinion.

Robert Worcester

The author is chairman of MORI. Details of fieldwork, dates and sample sizes are reported in Public Opinion Newsletter, published by the firm.

Services come first

Sceptics who believe that all the electors want is low taxes with no cuts in, or regardless of the effects on, public services, should take heed of a recent MORI poll for the *Daily Express*. This found that 61 per cent of the public preferred to "maintain spending on public services, even if this means an increase in taxes" rather than to "cut taxes, even if this means a cut in spending on public services" (30 per cent). It might be suggested that nearly half the population don't work and therefore don't pay taxes, so might be largely responsible for this result. Not so. Those not working, the housewives and pensioners, were no more likely to favour the tax increase option than those working, and 53 per cent of those unemployed or unable to work were actually less likely to favour the option.

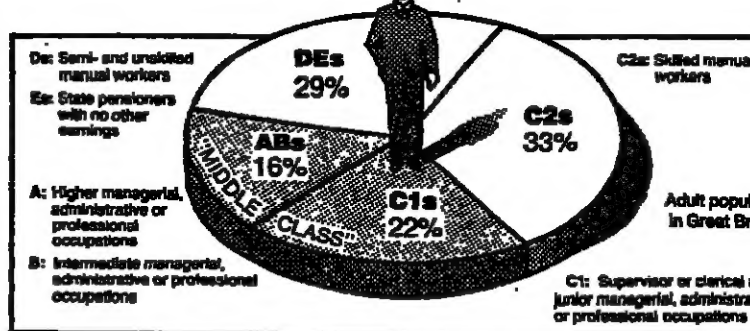
Plain speaking

The Prime Minister has said she prefers "denationalization" to "privatization". But what's in a word? One of the psychological/semantic distances covered by the two words is that coveries pollsters have made over the years is that no matter how the politicians play with words over the issues of nationalization, the public seems to know clearly what is meant. A decade ago, when MORI measured support for "nationalization", it was contended that "nationalization" was a dirty word and that we would get very different results if "public ownership" were used instead. Intrigued by this, we used a split ballot technique, asking half of a sample of the public the degree to which they thought companies should be nationalized, and the other half whether or not companies should be taken into public ownership, holding everything constant except the two alternative phrases. We found virtually no difference.

More recently, privatization has been the Government's code word for denationalization. On a recent similar survey, MORI found little difference in public reaction to the two words.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: PUBLIC OPINION



The ABC guide to social class

There are frequent references in stories of psychological or sociological bent that refer to social class designations in Britain. There is nothing sinister about this and it is true that many people do not believe themselves to be in a social class or if they do, consider it to be irrelevant. It is a useful demographic classification for marketing and sociological purposes however. Traditionally, social class is based on and used constantly in this way by researchers operating under definitions used by the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising (IPA).

So-called ABs are defined as the higher managerial, administrative or professional occupations (A) or intermediate managerial, administrative or professional occupations (B). C1s, lower middle-class, are "supervisor or clerical and junior managerial, administrative or professional". The ABs represent approximately 16 per cent of the adult population in Great Britain and

Swing factors

During elections we hear a lot about the concept of "swing", which is the percentage (number of people out of 100) who have changed over between two elections or indeed two points in time. Two examples are in the news at the moment. The swing measured by

Gallup against British Telecom's privatization between December and October is 64 per cent, calculated by the net change between those thinking privatization a "good idea" and those who think it bad.

More recently, a MORI poll taken just after the American invasion of Grenada found a swing of 4 per cent against sitting cruise missiles here since a similar question was asked in May during the election.

moreover... Miles Kington

In the box - and on it

Television people suffer from split minds about their audience. They care deeply about the numbers of people watching, but they care not a fig about what the people are thinking while they are watching - that is, they worship the ratings but have no time at all for the opinion of the public. There is nothing in television to correspond to the importance of *The Times* letter page.

Channel 4, however, who would all commit suicide en masse if they worshipped ratings, have a slightly more enlightened attitude to viewers. Critics of the channel would say that with a smaller audience they are more able to deal with their viewers on a personal basis, but what I am thinking of is the fact that the only programme actually made by Channel 4 is *Right to Reply*, a forum of viewers' opinions, and that they have just installed a tiny studio in the foyer of their offices where members of the public can go in and record a minute's worth of praise or criticism.

This Video Box, as it is called, represents a breakthrough on two major fronts, one intentional and one not. First of all, it means that any comment from a viewer will be spoken by the viewer personally and not enacted by a repertory speaker. Liz Forgan, who dreamt up the idea for Channel 4, once had a letter read out on the BBC's *Points of View* in a voice not at all like her own; when she objected she was told that the voice chosen for her letter was "Reigate Sympathetic". I suggest that people who write to the BBC in future should specify whether they want their letters read in Glasgow Incoherent with Rage, Laidback Leamington, Resigned Welsh, Hampstead Concerned or Midlands Unisex, though of course the best way of getting your letter on air still remains adding Aged 12½ in brackets.

But the other effect of Forgan's *Revenge* will be something that Channel 4 have not dreamt of. They are expecting viewers' reactions. They are hoping for contributors like the Bishop of Edmonstone, who was filmed in a promotional 60 seconds complaining that American football, which he loves dearly, clashes with evensong. They are dreading drunken Sobiesites coming in off Charlotte Street and recording incomprehensible rambles. What they do not seem to anticipate is the appearance of people who simply want to audition for TV.

If I object to the standard of newswriting on TV, for instance, I would not go into the Video Box and complain about it. I would go in with a news bulletin, read it brilliantly and leave my phone number. If I thought there should be more bridge on TV, I would take in three friends, deal a quick hand and come to blows over the bidding, if there was time. If I wanted to see more motor bicycle racing on Channel 4, I would - no, there's probably a limit to what you can do inside a video box.

But I fully expect that in the next few weeks, Channel 4's Video Box will be deluged by.

People recently released by breakfast TV programmes who have got into the habit of rising at 4am and now have nowhere to go.

Pop groups who can't get on *The Tube*. Ex-Nationwide stars.

Dr David Owen.

Film producers with trailers of their documentary on all-Latin American, lesbian football teams.

Members of the royal family who can't get their books published.

People who have just had books published but can't get on *Start the Week*.

Post-Alexei Sayle stand-up comedians.

Tam Dalyell.

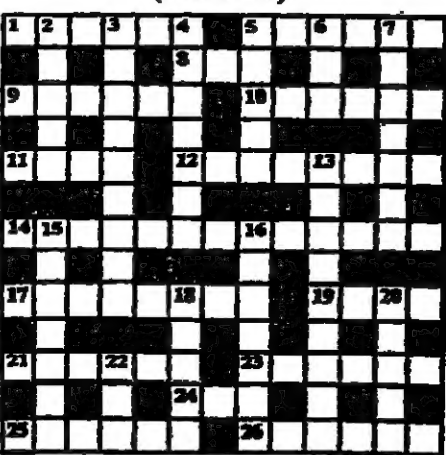
Buskers who can't find a pitch.

People who want to open a new small restaurant in Soho but can't find premises, now this Video Box is the sort of thing they're looking for and what sort of rent would Channel 4 want?

Harry Evans.

Personally, I shall be trying to get them interested in this sitcom I'm writing about the hilarious goings on at an alternative self-sufficiency farm in Wales.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 210)



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Dealer (6) | 2 Lift (5) |
| 5 Ornamental awning (6) | 3 Misuse funds (9) |
| 8 Lubricate (3) | 4 Selfish driver (4,3) |
| 9 E Nigerian region (6) | 5 Adhere closely (5) |
| 10 Pierce with spike (6) | 6 Pluck (3) |
| 11 Whimper (4) | 7 Fur-trimmed cloak (7) |
| 12 Many-storied (4,4) | 8 Storage lake (9) |
| 14 Chinese Nationalist leader (6,3,4) | 9 Peaceful (7) |
| 17 Helpless (8) | 10 Stern (7) |
| 19 Abundant (4) | 11 Prizes lavishly (5) |
| 21 Young swan (6) | 12 Ruff (5) |
| 23 Of sexual desire (6) | 13 Maiden name (3) |
| 24 Boat blade (3) | |
| 25 Reveal (6) | |
| 26 Registers (6) | |

SOLUTION TO No 209

ACROSS: 1 Fictish 4 Tornato 7 Flip 8 Randomly 9 Ceramics 12 Hen 15 Patois 16 Zimmer 17 Tor 19 Maverick 24 Colossal 25 Adze 26 Dragon 27 Tablet
DOWN: 1 Fife 2 Trimester 3 Harum 4 Tonic 5 Moot 6 Tide 10 Axiom 11 Shift 12 Homocidal 13 Nark 14 Spot 18 Odour 20 Arson 21 Eclat 22 Long 23 Pert

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BOOKS

Sir John Plumb and Piers Brendon review the big biographies of the week: Albert the Good and Birkenhead the Bad

The jury is still out on Albert

Albert Prince Consort
By Robert Rhodes James

(Hamish Hamilton, £12.50)

The day of death kept sacred with the visit to the Mausoleum with her daughters; his gold watch ticking away the night at Osborne even as she lay dying; remembrance of the excessive passion which Queen Victoria brought to everything she said or felt, no-one can doubt or, indeed, has ever doubted, the love which Victoria felt for Albert from that first morning when she asked him to marry her, kissing him over and over again on his acceptance. She loved him body, heart and mind. Her love gave her remarkable insights into his problems and difficulties, that he could never be her husband in the true Victorian sense of the word. No matter how besotted with his beauty, Victoria was Queen and knew it. He had to take the secretaries appointed for him; he had to wait before he was allowed to see any confidential papers; he was discouraged from speaking to ministers on all matters political. From the start, as Robert Rhodes James makes so plain in his excellent biography, his position was one of exceptional difficulty for a very young, inexperienced Prince who disliked the climate, the habits and the people amongst whom he had come to live.

Fortunately he was a man of quite exceptional gifts - he had talent for everything he turned his hand to - and perhaps fortunately not quite genius for anything. As it was, he found the difficulties of his position and of Queen Victoria's temper almost impossible to bear as may be seen from one terrible outburst on his daughter Victoria's illness, printed by Rhodes James, that escaped the destruction of his more intimate personal papers. Lacking the over-riding egocentric drive of genius, his talents acted both as a distraction and as an emollient in his complex life - but how remarkable they were. He composed good music, from *Te Deums* to charming lullabies; he designed jewellery and the Victoria Cross (which was also his idea) as well as palaces and cottages; he drew and painted, if not quite so well as his wife, he became passionately involved with the role of arts and sciences in the life of the nation and we owe to him the acres of museums in South Kensington. He was artistically adventurous, collecting early Italian Renaissance pic-



The problems of being married to the Queen: Albert surrounded by her family, an engraving from Winterhalter's painting of 1846

tures long before they were fashionable but saw at once the beauty and originality of Paxton's ultra modern Crystal Palace; his support of the revival of fresco painting was admirable in intent if less successful in its expression.

Steadily and remorselessly he took his rightful place in the political affairs of the nation: he as much as anyone was responsible for preventing the "Trent" affair becoming a war-issue at the time of the American Civil War by drafting a memorandum for Victoria more or less on his death-bed.

He was intelligent, wise, gifted, handsome beyond the common run of princes, and yet what popularity he had was wrung reluctantly from the nation he served. His accomplishments are even more remarkable when we recall that he was dead at 42. His life is a wonderful subject for a biography and Rhodes James weaves sympathetically and with skill the rich tapestry of his activities. He also destroys a number of myths that have clouded some historians' vision of the Prince Consort. His childhood was far, far from being unhappy - indeed the reverse, in spite of the disaster that his parents made of their marriage. Rhodes James also shows how capable Albert was of very

deep and strong affections from childhood onwards. And yet there is no doubt that his rest for living had almost gone by the time he was 40 - indeed Queen Victoria who loved being alive, quickly recognized that Albert did not.

And so there is the enigma of the extraordinary man, so gifted, so successful, yet lacking the desire to live. Without deeply intimate personal papers no one can do anything but hazard a guess why, considering both his talents and his position, Albert lost his lust for life. Perhaps he never had much.

Rhodes James gives us all the evidence but does not impose his own solution. One can only guess - for myself I think that Albert may have been a deeply narcissistic character, meaning that in no pejorative sense, but often narcissistic characters find passionate devotion such as Albert got from Victoria hard at times to bear, yet his image of himself as a model and virtuous prince, his most treasured possession, forced him to bear it. But one could so easily be wrong. Read this fascinating biography and see if you can find the key to this extraordinary complex man, certainly the most gifted and talented of British Consorts, and in some ways still the most mysterious.

F. E. Smith
First Earl of Birkenhead
By John Campbell
(Cape, £30)

So many history books are published these days in which every sentence, sometimes every paragraph, screams for revision, that it is tempting to believe that the practice of writing coherent English is dying out among historians, as it has long since died out among literary critics. What a joy, then, to find a young scholar producing over 800 pages of trenchant, and often vivid prose with scarcely a stylistic hiccup in sight. True, John Campbell's case for writing such an excessively long biography is not justified by the intrinsic importance of his subject. But his manner triumphantly sustains his matter.

In a sense, this was also true of the character and career of F. E. Smith, though Dr Campbell perhaps too much his partisan to admit it. Smith got by on superficial brilliance rather than substantial ability. He was always superbly self-confident - as a schoolboy he was kicked by his fellows for announcing that he was going to be Lord Chancellor. At Oxford he slicked down his hair, eradicated his Lancastrian accent, and became a "howling swell" at the Union, on the rugby field and in the academic sphere, all accomplished with dazzling panache.

Then followed his speedy and richly-rewarded rise at the bar, though he started in the great cases (except as prosecuting Attorney General in the trial of Sir Roger Casement), and was quite willing to betray a client, as he did while supposedly acting for Lever against Northcliffe, when it was in his political interest to do so. Yet, Campbell argues, Smith was a serious scholar and "a truly great lawyer". Raymond Asquith's estimation of Smith as "the most fluent and plausible bouncer" seems more apt.

Of course, there is no denying Smith's immediate success in the House of Commons, which he entered in 1906. His celebrated maiden speech so delighted his own side that (as a journalist noted) for a while even Carson looked almost as if he might be a Liberal. Similarly, when one examines the content of Smith's political philosophy it turns out to be a dismal, clichéd form of neo-Darwinism. Smith thought might was right in Ireland, regarded women as male playthings who should not have the vote, and would not take Indians seriously at all.

Such views proved no bar to rapid progress in Parliament and Smith eagerly grasped each glittering prize as it presented itself. By 1919, when he was only 47, he had landed (as Lord Birkenhead) on the Woolsack. "Should I be as drunk as a lord," he supposedly asked (his *bons mots* were embellished by himself and others), "or as sober as a judge?" He was a bit of both, an outstanding Lord Chancellor who distributed the ecclesiastical patronage in his gift on the basis of the cricketing skills of the clerics concerned. No really solid political achievement can be credited to Smith, unless it was his contribution to the treaty with Sinn Féin in 1921. After that date his arrogance and boorishness became almost unbearable, even to members of his own party. By 1930 he had drunk himself into an early grave.

No doubt Smith was a convivial creature - part Regency rake, part Edwardian adventurer - in the toasting, cigar-smoking, clubbable society which he so loved. John Buchan called him "Aristotle's Magnificent Man". Churchill described their friendship as perfect, though even he, a fellow



The Smith a mighty man was he: brilliant but unsound, a clever chameleon whose brains had gone to his head

member of the ignoble free-masonry of bullies, was in awe of Smith's crushing power of repartee. A frequent victim was Jimmy Thomas, who once complained of having "an 'ell of an 'eadache". Smith advised him to "try a couple of aspirates". When the tables were turned, incidentally, and Smith was caricatured by Low as "Lord Burstinghead", he was not amused. He complained bitterly to Beaverbrook about being daily presented as "a

Woodrow Flits By

The World of Uncle Fred
By P. G. Wodehouse
(Hutchinson, £9.95)

Woodhouse Nuggets

Selected by Richard Osborne
(Hutchinson, £6.95)

Uncle Fred deserves to be better known. Perhaps not in the class of Lord Emsworth, Jeeves or Bertie Wooster, he ranks somewhere near Penzance and above Ukridge. In 1936 in a short story *Uncle Fred Flits By* Wodehouse released him from his brain. Like so many Wodehouse characters he seems to have been lurking there all the time, not so much waiting to be invented as waiting impatiently for his cue to come on stage. Three years passed before his impresario gave him his first full length performance, nine and ten years respectively before his next two, and another four years before his last. In 1962, though Wodehouse still had thirteen years left to tell us more if he had not been so stingy with Uncle Fred.

Uncle Fred was a natural genius at solving problems. Jeeves solved his by deep thought, drawing on all his great learning and, according to Bertie Wooster, eating a great deal of fish to keep the brain lively. Uncle Fred's approach was entirely spontaneous, relying heavily on his favourite weapon: impersonation. He felt it unsporting to visit suburban villas or a country house under his own name. He liked to lure others into the impersonation job, too.

All Uncle Fred's optimistic plans to iron out difficulties began by making them far more complicated. Heroes and heroines found themselves entangled in growing webs of deception from which escape became less and less likely. But escape they did with Uncle Fred pulling off sanguine coups at the moment even the most trusting of Wodehouse fans is beginning to wonder whether they really can be pulled.

Shakespeare's characters are as memorable as Wodehouse's, but the latter's plots are much better. He has no difficulty in believing nearly everything in Wodehouse but I am hard put to it to understand the extraordinary behaviour of Hamlet, et al. Uncle Fred is a perpetual undergraduate eagerly looking for fun, whether sober or semi-sober, and with a strong bent for doing good however much harm it causes. Bill Bailey, a penniless curate in

Service with a Smile (sadly not included in the Omnibus) may go through the tortures of Dante's *Inferno* having his disguise as Cuthbert Mortimer from Brazil penetrated by Lady Constance at Blandings Castle, but the angel Uncle Fred, responsible for his predicament, will put him out of his torment and win him Myra, the American heiress in the end.

Why did Wodehouse not arrange for Uncle Fred's wife, Jane (who understandably broke off their engagement eight times) to allow her closely guarded husband more outings? It could have been concern for Jane because none of his escapades inconvenienced her though "they shattered" his. Nor does Wodehouse ever tell us what really happened at the Dog Races when Pongo and Uncle Fred were arrested and gave false names and addresses which led to disaster for both of them in *Uncle Dynamite*, when they were recognized by the same Constable Potter, now on duty in the country, who had arrested them at the famous but unchronicled incident.

Only once does Uncle Fred behave out of character. He was an innocent snob who loved to proclaim, when not pretending to be someone else, that he was the 5th Earl of Ickenham and to recite the glories attaching to that privileged position. But in *Cocktail Time*, when quite sober, he tries to persuade Albert Peasebush, Sir Raymond Bastable's butler, to call him Fred. True he had known Albert when he was a ship's steward and had served in the Home Guard with him, and Albert was eventually to marry Sir Raymond's sister, but was it proper for Uncle Fred to want the butler to address him by his Christian name? Albert evidently thought not, compromising with, when he could remember it, "Mr I".

Uncle Fred ambles among the aphorisms in *Woodhouse Nuggets* compiled by that accomplished Wodehouse scholar Richard Osborne. This publication proves that there are almost as many quotations in Wodehouse as there are in Shakespeare. It should be kept by the side of Richard Osborne's *A Wodehouse Companion*. Many a winter evening can be passed teasingly matching the characters with their illuminating sayings in *Woodhouse Nuggets*.

Woodrow Wyatt

Despair and black humour from Poland

A Minor Apocalypse
By Tadeusz Konwicki
(Faber, £8.95)

The Compromise
By Sergei Dovlatov
(Chatto & Windus, £7.95)

A man with his mouth open, seen at a distance, in Poland perhaps, might be laughing, protesting, shouting in a nightmare, or howling with pain. Tadeusz Konwicki is doing all at once. *A Minor Apocalypse* is a visceral fear, a surreal yell at conditions in Warsaw, where resistance is as necessary as it is futile. The writer here is instructed by two dissidents to set himself on fire with a can of petrol outside the Palace of Culture that night. The novel is the story of his day wandering towards his fate through the streets, his memories, and his encounters with other writers, secret policemen and film directors such as a disguised Andrzej Wajda.

The book is nastily funny. The rattle of dry myth is also a death rattle. Echoes of Céline sound in the flaking, falling, occupied city, where even survival is a black joke. Arguments of twisted dialectic show truth in a distorting and dirty mirror. It is a time of

noble doubts, blessed uncertainty, divine mediocrity, when to have a character is tyranny. Nobody has even the inner strength or moral right to be a beggar. There would be hardly any sense in dividing the match that will light the petrol that will burn the hero. "Scarcely every third one lights as it is."

A Minor Apocalypse is a minor masterpiece of rage and despair from Eastern Europe. Poland must immolate itself to be free, but what price immolation when the Poles are already free because they have imposed their own slavery? At the end, before the final pyre of himself, the writer has a vision of a God created by people in all their suffering and complexity. From that God of people may come the only mercy that Poland may expect.

"An honest journalist only sells out once." Sergei Dovlatov attributes the remark to the guru Henry Ford. It is not true in Estonia. There the comrade reporters sell out at full blast daily. "A journalist says sincerely what he does not believe." Each episode in *The Compromise* begins with the official printed story in *Estonian Youth* or *Soviet Estonia*, then tells the truth of how the story was written by its anarchic, drunken correspondent. He finds himself carrying the coffin of the wrong dignitary

Fiction

The Natral Maa by Ed McClaughan
(Cape, £7.95)

Figures are relative in Russian. The certainty is vodka, vodka, vodka all the way to the next hangover. This series of connected stories about reporting in a Communist colony is hilarious and reassuring. Inefficiency is fatal, organization absent, truth all, and the Party Line knotted. The road to death, the narrator observes, is paved with meaningless news briefs.

The abominable hulk Monk McClaughan erupts into a Kentucky small town. He can shoot more pool and baskets and break more heads and wind than any teenager in living memory. His scribe is the adolescent girl-crazy Harry Eastep, who chronicles the earth exploits and smutty wisecracks of the Monk.

Harry is not Holden Caulfield. His language is both elegant and overstated while his dialogue would shame a barnyard. This is hardly *The Catcher in the Rye*, although it might

well be called *Comin' Through the Rye*. So single-minded is Harry about a time when his body should meet a body - in this case, the body of the overwhelming Monk. Ed McClaughan is a natural writer, and his evocation of small-town nostalgia and lust is very amusing and curiously endearing.

Don Buono is a novel of a Brazilian Oedipus. A male child is always born to a deserted woman. Whatever his true name, whatever evil he has done, he will be called Don Buono. He will then travel for no good reason after beguiling another male baby. He will meet his fate, which is to kill accidentally a crazy old man, who has provoked him into the killing and whispers his son's name with his last breath.

Zulfikar Ghose writes with erotic power and malevolent observation. In the jungle, jaguars mate in torment, screaming and tearing at each other. Human beings are no different, mating with desire and brooding lust. They are doomed by the fierceness of their want. Years of good actions are denied by one mad rape. Carnality rules. *Don Buono* is not a journey into the heart of darkness, but into the fatality of sexual need and its retribution.

Andrew Sinclair

Science fiction

Topsy-turvy worlds

Midas World
By Frederick Pohl
(Gollancz, £7.95)

Here is a conceit stretched to the limits of tolerance as metaphor, a filigree of caprice hardened to take the weight of social satire. The veteran science-fictioner Frederick Pohl just about makes it work. Because of a new form of energy and the emergence of robot-power the world's inhabitants become victims of a spend-spend economy. The poor are those who have to fulfill spending quotas; the rich are those freed of such obligations.

In describing a consuming society that has become a consumed society Pohl is giving a harder shove to an idea he first nudged in *Midas Plague*. In this he uses narrative segments to illustrate the decline of the human race - young marrieds from the different classes are nearly smothered by too many worldly goods; the final robotic destiny when organic humans are considered racially alien.

The topsy-turvy theme is built on a basically one-notch base, from which it might topple with one unsure touch. But the skill and integrity of its contrivance ensure that doesn't happen. The wit and characterization keep us involved. But the laughter is that of alarm.

His Master's Voice, by Stanislaw Lem (*Sacker and Warburg*, £7.95). The great fabulist expressing "a genuine conviction, no less genuine for being absurd" as dubious random tables of numbers seem to be

about to upset our concept of the Universe. Investigating scientists prove that there's as vast a space between people as between stars and there's a neat side-swipe at the "Charities of The Gods?" mentality. A rarefied treat.

Tik-Tok, by John Sladek (*Gollancz*, £7.95). Deprived of Asimov-circuitry our robot-hero goes on a killing spree through Middle America of an ebony-hued hilarity. The frenzy of the telling becomes a bit wearing but there is an explosive comic case here which can turn a whoopee cushion into an electric chair.

Best Science Fiction Of The Year, 12, edited by Terry Carr (*Gollancz*, £9.95). The yearly feast with Establishment writing by such as Silverberg, Lo Guin and Dick interlarded with newcomers of high potential. Terry Carr's thoughtful introduction of SF is a bonus in what would be a marvellous Christmas gift for all addicts.

Stargate, by Pauline Gedge (*Penguin*, £1.95). The sun-lords become mortal to save their worlds, fearing the wrath of the World-Maker. The Eden-myth extended into fantasy, beautifully controlled.

Golden Witchweed, by Mary Gentle (*Gollancz*, £8.95). Despite a forest of daunting italics on nearly every page to emphasize new words, the new world of Orthe is a distinct and positive creation. An enthralling narrative of subtle power, as smooth-sailing as a *jah* (double-masted ocean-going vessel, usually with lateen sails).

Tom Hutchinson

Christmas Books

In Saturday's *Times* our menu of books for Christmas includes browsing and swilling, ghost stories for the season, books about the upper crust and royals, travellers' tales, children's books, fannies, show business, London and Paris, and picture books.



Awaking in the middle of a snore, Scrooge sits up in bed for *Times Christmas Books*. Michael Foreman's illustration for *A Christmas Carol* (Gollancz, £5.95)

The palimpsest of Londinium

London
City of the Romans
By Ralph Merrifield
(Batsford, £14.95)

The central and most obvious difficulty in studying a single Roman town, in northern Europe at least, is that if it was more than an ordinary successful (and so worth studying) it is likely to have turned into a medieval town and in due course a modern one, with the result that such of its buildings as are not completely destroyed will have been incorporated in, or buried beneath, up to 20 centuries of later development. Given reasonable luck we may have a stretch of its defensive wall, perhaps a gate, and its internal plan may be partly discernible in the modern pattern of streets.

More than this is a bonus, and in order to set such fragments into any kind of physical or historical context the archaeologist must await the pleasure of gas and electricity boards, highways departments and municipal and private developers, snaking in when one building is demolished and before another is built, recording what he can in the limited time available and working out its significance later when it is too late to go back and check. There will be some areas of minor importance of which he will know a great deal, and others quite central and crucial of which he will know nothing.

To say that this is like doing a jigsaw with nine-tenths of the pieces (and the picture) missing is to underestimate the problem: it is like doing about five such jigsaws one on top of another and being prevented most of the time from taking the lid off the box.

That Mr Merrifield is rather good at this game should come as no surprise: he worked for many years at the Guildhall Museum and the new Museum of London, and this is his fourth book on the subject since 1965. Its framework is essentially chronological except for a chapter on the hinterland of London and its road network, and the period covered is that from the pre-London Roman Age to the sixth century and beyond. A historical rather than a topographical approach presents problems for both author and reader, in that the material available varies greatly from one phase to another not only in amount but in ease of interpretation. In this respect the earlier chapters, in which the questions are more basic (What was the administrative status of London? When did it actually begin?), are more satisfying, even if the evidence is scarce and fragmentary.

Later on, when the physical remains are more extensive, the questions become more specific and the perspective correspondingly narrower. Much of the difficulty arises from the desire to date things very precisely,

because we are dealing with a single city we wish to know what happened from one decade to another, and this is rarely possible, since even when we come across objects to which precise dates can be given the dating of the buildings in which they occur is quite another matter.

The results of this (and of the general unevenness of the material) are most clearly seen in the chapter on the third century: evidence of a decline in population and a shrinkage of the area occupied has to be set against the construction of the famous Mithraeum and a number of prosperous houses, and both have to be married to what we know of the political events of the century and their likely effects. Mr Merrifield's great quality in all this is that he neither understates the difficulties nor dodges the historian's responsibility to construct hypotheses.

The book is well illustrated and nicely presented, though there are a number of minor misprints. If one were in a mood to complain one would lament the lack of a map on which the main Roman features are superimposed on the modern street plan: those of us who do not live and work in the City are apt to get lost in the back streets, and the A to Z is not much help.

John Percival



COUNTRY LIFE

The Staffordshire Moorlands
Roy Christian describes the attractions of these moorlands, known only to a few lovers of wild country and secluded valleys.
Lady Hamilton's Friend
The valuable contribution to horticulture made by Charles Francis Greville, best remembered for his role in Emma Hamilton's life, is recalled by Paul Edwards.
Nature's Big Bang
Roger A. Redfern looks at the build up to, and the aftermath of, the greatest explosion of all time: the eruption of Krakatoa.
Britain's Rare-Bird Bonanza
Last year ten species of bird were recorded in this country for the first time, reports P.J. Grant.
Concerts in Country Houses
Country Life is to sponsor a programme of classical music in National Trust houses. Michael Wright gives details.
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THE TIMES DIARY

Dynasty's top table

This may not be to Equity's liking. Filming of a new series of *Dynasty*, the searing saga of big game folk, has just been completed in America. Appearing in small but meaningful roles are Henry Kissinger and Gerry and Betty Ford. All three will be playing themselves, but how these serious political people will fit into the lives of the wicked tycoons and their molls who make up *Dynasty's* cast is not clear. Since we are a year behind America in the *Dynasty* schedule, it could be many more months before Kissinger and the Fords show up on BBC1.

Doubling up

In the revival of RSC's *Poppy* at the Adelphi, losers in a competition win two tickets to the National Theatre's ill-starred musical *Les Femmes d'Alger*, which provokes much mercurial among the audience. But the musical's composer Marvin Hamlisch was unamused and there was talk of injunctions. "He calmed down when it was explained it was just a joke," says the RSC. One of *Poppy's* cast has, however, now suggested changing the line: the losers win four tickets to *Jean Seberg*.

Department of Employment officials are making a determined attempt to aid the jobless in South Yorkshire, an unemployment black-spot. Barzley's job centre, devoid of the more traditional jobs, has been advertising for a trained diamond cutter to work in Los Angeles.

Torn off a strip

No one comes out of this story too well. While appearing in Berne, members of the Kirov Ballet and the accompanying Leningrad Orchestra came under suspicion by the Swiss police and were made to submit to a body search. The Moscow paper *Literaturnaya Gazeta* has subsequently accused the police of "almost unbelievable, scandalous, insulting behaviour". The police explanation is that a crime had been committed and a shopgirl thought she recognized two of the Russians near the scene. "Can you believe it?" she thundered the *Gazeta*. "How would they like to be asked to strip naked on the evidence of a shopgirl?"

Deep frieze

We can let the Greeks have the Elgin Marbles after all - we've got a spare set. Lord Elgin's secretary, William Hamilton, perhaps anticipating future trouble, took casts of the marbles which he kept in his King's Road house, which now belongs to Chelsea College of Art. The room in which the marbles form a frieze was recently redecorated deep blue. "It's a bit like standing inside a Wedgwood bowl," says the college secretary.

The inner sanctum of the Suffolk Constabulary HQ near Ipswich has been violated. Two armed bandits raided the one-armed bandits at the police social club on Saturday night, making off with the cash. A spokeswoman described the break-in as a bit cheeky. So far, no arrests have been made.

G(n)ome missing

East Hampshire police have issued descriptions of six little people abducted from their home in Headley Down. The constabulary are looking out for "one gnome fishing, one naked woman, two gnomes dancing and two gnomes holding hands, plus a mushroom".

Barry Fantoni



"And what am I bid for lot 94, should it turn up?"

Back to basics

Brooke Shields, star of truly terrible movies like *Endless Love* and *The Blue Lagoon*, has enrolled at Princeton University for a course, which is described by the college as "a workshop at the basic level, designed to introduce students to some of the requirements of acting." Not a moment too soon.

Our old friend, the English translator for the Hotel Bayerischerhof in Munich, is at it again. Mr David Fromme, dining in the hotel's restaurant, managed to avoid "stewed angler on leek".

Pressing issue

Although the GLC drapes a banner over County Hall proclaiming the number of unemployed in London, its own bi-monthly give-away newspaper, *The Londoner*, is printed in Plymouth. "We are desperate to get a London printer," says the editor, Wes Whitehouse. "The last time we put it up for tender, 13 London firms were invited to quote. Six did not reply. Six declined to quote and the one tender that was submitted was incomplete."

Q. There appears to be a fundamental division in the country, as in government and Parliament, over the question of whether the majority prefers lower taxes or higher public spending. Which side are you on?
A. Public opinion is difficult to read, simply from looking at opinion polls. They say: Would you prefer to pay higher taxes in order to have a better health service? A lot of people say yes. But that is simply because they think the higher taxation will be paid by somebody else. They don't think it will be paid by them but that they will get the benefit from a better health service. In fact, when there is any suggestion - as you saw a few days ago - of an increase in taxation then howls go up all over the place.

I think the public would like to see lower taxation, and I think a lower burden of taxation is necessary to get the best out of the economy, particularly for those on below-average earnings. For people right at the bottom of the income scale the amount taken out of their pay packets in taxation is too high. People recognize this. As far as public expenditure is concerned, we're not cutting the health service - which is the cause of most of the emotion: spending on the health service is increasing steadily in real terms. You've seen this in the Autumn Statement.

If people want health care spending to rise still faster in the country as a whole - and I'm now taking the longer view - we've achieved a satisfactory outcome of the public expenditure review not just for 1984-85 but for 1985-86 and 1986-87 - then we have to ask ourselves: do we want this to be tax-financed? Aren't there better ways of doing it - either by the private sector taking a bigger chunk of the total amount of health care and/or a bigger National Health Service seeking ways of financing itself other than through taxation? These are the sort of questions we've got to address ourselves to and they show the possibility of increasing health care, not cutting it. Nothing would cut back potential growth further than the view that every single penny has to be financed by the taxpayer. We're going to come to a point when the working population which pays the bulk of the tax is going to feel that it's not prepared to pay any more.

As ministers join in criticism of planned reductions in public spending, the Chancellor, Nigel Lawson (right), tells Kenneth Fleet and Frances Williams that health and welfare expectations must match economic reality



What is your philosophy about the future of public spending, what strategy would you like to see? I'm sure that you as Chancellor, have views on the future path that public spending should take, not just in the aggregate.

I think there are two basic views come together. One is that we want to see public expenditure take a steadily smaller proportion of gross domestic product over a period of years. This has been happening since 1981, when it reached a peak during our government, and is projected to come down further in 1984-85.

To reduce public spending as a proportion of gross domestic product, is it essential in your view that there should be this shift from public to privately financed services?

It's not essential, but I think that it is a desirable way to achieve it. You could just say that health and the rest should remain as they are, fully in the public sector, with just so much money and no more. To a certain extent you have to do that anyway. But it's much more sensible to encourage the growth of private provision, so that the people are able to spend their money on what they most want to spend it on. And that is achieved by giving an opportunity for the private sector to meet a demand if an unsatisfied demand exists.

Have you any specific ideas on how you might encourage private provision? Would you consider tax incentives or reliefs?

There are enormous tax incentives for pensions at the present time, though not for health care and education. That is one of the things we are discussing and looking into at the moment - there is a whole range of things we have to look at as part of long-term thinking.

The implications of what you've said about public spending suggests that you see the role of the private sector as providing improvements to existing services. Does that mean that some of the more radical options that were being canvassed before the election, which would actually involve cuts in provision by the public sector in order to make room for increased provision by the private sector, are no longer being considered? I'm referring to some of the "Think Tank" proposals such as education vouchers and an insurance-financed health service.

The "Think Tank" report was its own responsibility - I don't think it's helpful particularly to hark back to that. But undoubtedly in our look at the longer term we shall have to consider a number of options. I can't tell you which. No decisions have been taken.

But we can't assume that because the Think Tank report was shelved at the time that the options it presented will not come up for consideration again. Is there no question of cutting public spending?

Anything that has been ruled out publicly has been ruled out. Realistically I think that although particular items of public expendi-

ture can be cut, the totality of public expenditure is most unlikely to be reduced in real terms. But if we can hold the total level of public expenditure constant in real terms over a period of years, that would give us all the headroom needed to reduce the burden of taxation over a period of years, and enable us to have the rate of growth which we all want to see.

Your Autumn Statement provoked some extreme reactions, especially over the suggestion of tax increases in the next Budget. Were you surprised at the response?

The fact that there might be a need to increase taxes in the next Budget took some people by surprise. But the plain fact is that our fiscal policy is gradually to reduce the size of the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) as a proportion of gross domestic product. And if, to do that, it is necessary to increase taxation, then everybody knows we will do that. We did it in the last Parliament and we will do it in this Parliament. Obviously it would be nicer if the problem didn't arise. But the best forecast we can make at the moment - and I emphasize the enormous margin of uncertainty involved - suggests that to get back to the Medium Term Financial Strategy figure of 3.8m, a slight increase in taxation would be needed. It would have been far more serious, I must say, if the impression had been given that we are no longer concerned about the size of the PSBR.

The prospect for reductions on taxation is still there, but at the present time it doesn't look a lively prospect for 1984. If public expenditure is held to the figures for the next three years, there will be the possibility of tax cuts further ahead.

Did you intend the statement about possible tax increases to be a shock? Was it a crude political ploy?

It wasn't a crude political ploy, but I think that it is necessary that people's expectations match the realities of the situation. In the past I'm now talking about previous governments - one of the biggest problems we faced in this country was the huge gap between expectations and reality. And one of the things we've sought to do in the economic field ever since 1979 is to close that gap so that expectations match reality.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

The fine art of faking good



Forger, and proud of it: Tom Keating and Constable look-alike

was obviously his view, if occurred in a play about the case, at one point in which van Meegeren is reflecting on the fact that his "Christ at Emmaus" was universally accepted as genuine until he himself proved that it was a fake. I quote van Meegeren's Question: "from memory, but it went something like this:

Yesterday, this picture was worth millions of guilders, and experts and art-lovers would come from all over the world and pay money to see it. Today, it is worth nothing, and nobody would cross the street to see it free. But the picture has not changed. What has?

I am blown if I know, and the unblown are warned that any attempt to provide the question with a snap answer will certainly come to grief. (Suppose, for instance, that van Meegeren had died before his trial; his Vermeer would presumably be accepted to this day. Moreover, he was able to get away with the original sale because there is evidence that Vermeer did paint such a picture, which had been presumed lost. So suppose that van Meegeren had died without revealing his secret, and the real Vermeer had then turned up: how would the experts have adjudicated between the two, and how would they have convinced anybody that they had made the right decision, whatever it was? Or suppose van Meegeren had been left to be opened after his death, a statement that his defence had been bogus, and that the disputed picture had been genuine after all? And suppose that that had happened, and the genuine genuine one had been found, and the experts had divided into two equal camps of supporters - which one would we have paid good money to see and be impressed by?)

The price of a picture is determined by supply and demand, within a framework of fashion. So there is no clue there; certainly some people will go to see a picture that has been sold for a record sum just because the money is fetched, but they would also go to see, for the same reason, a giant uncut diamond or for that matter a very large pile of banknotes. The beauty of a picture ought not to be in the eye of the beholder, but that "ought" is a fat lot of use in the face of van Meegeren's success, and for that matter a fat consolation for those who bought (and sold) Mr Keating's Palmers. If we stood in front of van Meegeren's Vermeer and felt profoundly affected by the majesty and power of the scene, just why would we stop feeling such things if a newsboy rushed into the gallery shouting that it had just been proved a fake?

Well, let me step into the witness-box myself. I have just published a book, in one chapter of which I go rattling on for pages about Vermeer's "The Servant Pouring Milk" in the Rijksmuseum; I have gazed upon that picture countless times, for many hours in all, but I simply do not know what I would feel on my next visit if before it took place the picture was conclusively proved to be by Mr Denis Skinner, Lord Chief Justice Lane, or Miss Sarah Hogg.

If I would feel the same as I always have, then the identity of the artist is not important. In one sense, that is obviously true: there are some very great pictures which have never been attributed to any known artist. But suppose Mr Skinner, The LCI or Miss Hogg had been shown to have painted the picture, deliberately, in the style of Vermeer, which is what van Meegeren did: why would the authorship then start to matter - to matter so much, indeed, that I might no longer feel the same about it?

It is no use saying that there is a vast gulf between any masterpiece and any imitation of it, however meticulous. I have no doubt there is, but if we cannot see the difference - and successful art forgery would not exist if we could - what exactly does the difference consist of, apart from the fact that there must be one? Suppose that that four-million-dollar Manet did turn out to be a fake: the buyer could get his money back from Christie's, of course, but questions of legal liability plainly have nothing to do with artistic validity, so what would then be the standing of the oohs and ahs - quite genuine ones, I am sure - heard in the saleroom when it was held up before the bidding started?

Then again, what about a picture that has hung, neglected, in the corner of a gallery for many years, attributed to a minor follower of Raphael? All of a sudden the greatest Raphael expert in the world takes a good look at it, and declares that it is from the master's own hand: all other experts look at it and agree, and the queues begin to form. Never mind the motives of the queueers: what has caused the difference in their feelings in front of the picture, which have changed overnight from casual interest to passionate devotion? (Remember van Meegeren: "The picture has not changed. What has?")

The horrid truth seems to be that our response to art rests on a foundation much less secure than we like to think. I suppose it begins when we begin to learn about art, and all too often to learn about it in terms of hierarchies of eminence, so that Rembrandt-good is an equa-

tion fixed in our minds forever. But it is all too easy to believe, and millions do believe it, that his paintings are good because he is Rembrandt; in fact, his paintings are good because of the qualities to be found in them, and they would be no less good if they were by Smith, Jones or Anon, yet the result of the equation-learning (the equivalent of teaching geography when my mother was a girl) is that many visitors to an art gallery look first for the label which tells them who painted it, and then at the picture to see not what is there but what the label has told them.

If Rembrandt is good, then we are obliged to experience the appropriate response when looking at a picture he painted, and if we fail to experience it we are obliged to keep quiet. Conversely, when we are looking at a picture by not-Rembrandt, we accept that we are forbidden to feel the response appropriate to his work. Now what happens when we are looking at a Rembrandt, with the right feelings, and we are told that it is a fake? The answer, surely, is the answer to van Meegeren's question: we switch off the feeling at once, and switch on the feeling appropriate to fakes - that is, an indignation made the more intense by the realization that we have been fooled.

I have to say that I have never felt quite so tentative in offering an answer to a question in my life. But if that, or something like it, is not the answer to van Meegeren's riddle, what is? I think I had better leave it there for today, retreating in good order under the cover provided by Beachcomber's brief career as the owner of a shady art gallery where hacks turned out rubbishy daubs which were then sold to credulous millionaires as examples of the finest modern art. One evening, Foulencourt got drunk and signed a hideous abstract "Tintoretto". Even the sucker who was to be bamboozled into buying it jibbed at this, and the captain, thinking fast, insisted that the signature was in fact that of Tintoretto, an artist in the most avant of gardes. Thus reassured, the sucker paid up, and presumably van Meegeren, from that corner of Heaven reserved for those who have smitten the Philistines with the jawbone of an ass, chuckled quietly. My compliments to Tom Keating, and if he will only claim publicly to have painted the Manet there will be a bottle of champagne waiting for him: che Levin as soon as he cares to call.

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Ronald Butt

Give local electors a higher rating

It is now a common cry on the left (with the right at best uneasily taciturn on the question) that Mrs Thatcher's government is the most centrist and interventionist for many decades. Coming from socialism - whose rigidly statist modes of thinking have usually been closer to the ideology prevailing east of the Elbe than to our own notion of democracy - the charge seems bizarre. It is not, however, entirely false on that account.

The Tories have always believed in as much local responsibility and freedom from central control as is consistent with their belief in parliamentary sovereignty. Local voluntary political and non-political work has always been dear to Tory instincts. The town hall is a great safety-valve for a party which does not believe that the man in Whitehall knows best. Yet Mrs Thatcher is both planning to obliterate substantial segments of the local authority structure, and to deprive local councils of the right to raise rates as they choose.

Of course, there is logic in both intentions. In face of the Conservative efforts to cut central government contributions to local finance, current spending has gone up, and the power to levy rates has been used to confound central control of the economy overall. The Conservatives have long disliked the rating system as unfair, but have been forced to conclude that there is no acceptable substitute for it. Their solution is to restrict the rate-raising power, and also to abolish the Greater London Council and the six metropolitan counties, to promote efficiency and cut costs.

The government bases its case for abolition on the argument that the councils marked for abolition have no real function and that their responsibility for fire, transport services and (outside London) police can be better undertaken by joint local boards and statutory bodies. But what has given zeal to the Tory attack on the metropolitan authorities has been dislike of the use Labour politicians make of these bodies as rival power bases from which to launch raids into national politics.

Indeed, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has said as much. The condemned authorities (which he has described as mostly "Marxist") are disliked because some of their leaders (most skillfully Mr Ken Livingstone of the GLC) have gone outside the traditional reserve of local government. They have challenged central government policy and used their position to campaign on such national questions as defence and the economy and to make national names for themselves.

The central government's dislike of rival political power bases is not a disreputable instinct. Historically, central government in England has always distrusted feudal rivals. Our ancient unitary state, in which the sovereign's writ runs everywhere and equally for everyone, has been founded on the authority of the crown in parliament. It has leaned heavily on local action (traditionally expressed through the shire and its officials and justices of the peace), but all their power was derived from the crown. In a sense that is also true of the contemporary local authority, which has no rights as such. Virtually everything it does is empowered by act of parliament, and what parliament has granted it can take away.

Why then should it not take away from Mr Livingstone the power that

he has operated like an over-mighty baron, challenging Westminster, than in the spirit of the crown's sheriff? There is no reason, providing that something less costly can be arranged to give better expression to local opinion on matters of importance to people that are locally administered. The Government, however, is curiously insensitive on this point, and that worries many Conservatives.

In London, Tories argue with some reason that the death of the GLC, with no elected substitute, will deprive the capital city of a "voice". Mrs Thatcher would reply (in the best tradition of English government) that there is no virtue in a body that can talk but do nothing. The strength of Parliament, after all, is that it always debates knowing that it can do anything. However, as a sop it seems that the discontented Tory members of the GLC will be offered something like a statutory version of the London Boroughs Association as a voice for London, though whether with any authority to do anything more than consult is unclear.

Yet that is an inadequate response to the real problem. Of course, there is no reason to mourn the GLC and the metropolitan counties. The lack of a public outcry against their abolition is evidence of the widespread understanding that local responsibility is largely a charade: that local authorities can only spend (however wastefully) on functions laid on them by Westminster, and are essentially dependant on Westminster money. (Even Mr Livingstone can spend only up to a 2p rate on his notorious support for the peculiar minority groups that enjoy his patronage). The often criticized tendency of voters to use local elections to pronounce a verdict on the Westminster government is a sign of their sophisticated understanding. They know where the real power is.

Even so, the ability of local opinion to influence locally taken decisions does matter. There is a frustrated urge for local accountability of strictly local decisions and the Government is foolish not to heed it.

It is, for instance, foolish to replace the abolished Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) by appointed borough representatives instead of by a directly elected body. An elected ILEA could be a model for other elected bodies to manage functions of welfare that are organized locally under the authority of central government. It is argued that there can be no real local autonomy without local revenue-raising. But is this necessarily so?

Why should not money for education and other functions of local importance be allocated on an equalizing basis from the centre and then spent by locally elected bodies, who might be allowed to "top up" by levying a small extra rate locally, and then account to local opinion for it? Why should not the same principle apply in various forms to fire services, transport, and ultimately (in a re-fashioned NHS) to health?

Local government as it now exists is a largely empty vessel, much misused, and the government is sensible to try to reform it. But it would be in the proper traditions of Toryism to try to rebuild local influence into local administration, in a manner that befits the changed circumstances of our time. A start could have been made with an elected ILEA instead of the body of borough nominees which it announced this week.

John Harris

Chewing on bones of contention

Clearest of all: once upon a time in swinging Belsize Park, over the taramasalata, the tinned snails, the shashlik, the *carciofi alla romana* and the Chinese toffee apples, I could define myself as an ectomorphic non-vegetarian progressive, rationally faithful to a selection of woolly liberal western traditions. But down here, in this village between Montpellier and Béziers, I am the Englishman.

Monsieur Rancoul, the mobile butcher, plays a fanfare on his hooter and parks in the square. My wife hesitates between a couple of veal escalopes and a pound of stewing beef.

"What about a nice leg of lamb this weekend, Monsieur 'Arrise? Just look at this beauty - something to regale yourself with!"

He is teasing us. Having chosen sun 300 days a year, wine at 30p a litre and the rest of the *bonheur de vivre* of the Languedoc, we have to forego caviar, lobsters and legs of expensively educated French lamb, and he knows it. But he also knows - as a butcher - that I, as the Englishman, am conspiring to flood France with the vile limbs of nasty cheap British sheep, while my accomplices chew the tasteless fibres of aged beasts dumped by New Zealanders.

Falling into the trap, I defend the excellent product from down under, delicious even on the third day as shepherd's pie à la Worcester Sauce, while as to the succulence of English cutlets from lush dewy meadows...

Anyway, what about liberty, equality and fraternity, eh? Why try to stop French housepersons choosing whichever leg they like the look, taste and price of?

He thumps the counter with a calf's foot. What am I doing? This is where I hang my hat, among this little crowd of honest helpful interested people...

"Why should she ruin her country so that you can sell your great trainloads of butter to the Russians at 50 centimes the kilo? She -"

My Mrs Thatcher indeed! At Belsize Park I have to carry the can for my Mitterrand (it used to be my Roy Jenkins). Rancoul is clearly mistaking a knock-down masterstroke.

My wife remembers her Dugh origins. "And why do you keep on chucking your potash salts in the Rhine, and ruining my vegetable gardens?"

He looks capable of defending his right to chuck anything in any of his rivers whenever the spirit moves him. But he won't be side-tracked: "Well, you burnt Joan of Arc, didn't you?"

Should I try to explain to him that Joan, despite her regrettable touch of anglophobia, is almost a naturalized British heroine? Better not. But I firmly point out that the Burgundians, who sold Joan, were not a British tribe, and that Cauchon, who condemned her, was the Bishop of Beauvais, not of Birmingham.

He grins with delight. Common sense has broken through. Perhaps he has more of it than I have. "All right, you win. You didn't burn her. But you must admit I didn't either."

We agree that we not only didn't burn Joan, but that if we had been there at the time we would have deplored the whole thing. We are against burning young ladies. We are on the same side after all.

This *entente cordiale* took place some days before I read an interesting review of two recent French books in *The Economist*. It seems that Joan was really the daughter of a VIP, was quietly released after her trial, got married and lived fairly happily ever after. The girl whom the Inquisition burnt was someone of no importance.

I'm glad I didn't know about this. It would have complicated the leg-of-lamb discussion. And when you come to think about it, it would have been a red herring.



THE 2001 DEBATE

The cause of open government could have no more prized adherent than Mr Fowler, whose conversion was announced in Tuesday's stimulating speech. At last, fourteen months after the Think Tank's welfare proposals were leaked, nine months after the press rumbled the Family Policy Group, one member of the government has subscribed to the involvement of the public in the debate about the future of social policy that has been going on in the holes and corners of Whitehall for some time.

Open government does not mean the satisfaction of casual curiosity about the workings of secret committees. It does require ministers to share with the public those hard but hidden facts of fiscal life, those internal tax and benefit equations which will shape the future of spending and services. The next convert must surely be Mr Lawson. In the conversation with *The Times* published this morning he teeters on the edge of acknowledging with Mr Fowler that there must be information, discussion about health costs, not just this year or next but in the longer run of decades. And after debate comes a plan, a proper plan for social spending till the end of the century. "Plan" is a loaded word in this government's lexicon, but without one how are public expectations to be shaped, diminished? Before either debate or plan the Prime Minister must throw off her preoccupation with the short term, and look beyond what seems to be her own tight social policy horizon, the date two years hence when she herself reaches pensionable age.

Such a debate will not make, as Mr Fowler rightly observed, for a quiet life. There is moreover no guarantee that the public, the parties or the producers of social services will prove mature enough to cast forward the arithmetic of pensions and doctors' bills to thirty even fifty years ahead. But the least that ministers and officials can do, and soon, is get the debate started on the basis of facts. This is no exercise in future fantasy. Those due to retire in the third decade of the next century will enjoy (on present policy) state pensions costing up to one third of earnings to finance; contribution rates will have to shoot up to meet the cost. The time for discussion is now. The pensioners of 2030 are at this moment beginning their careers; a process of expectation-building has started: the reality of the costs of the Crossman-Castle earnings-related pension scheme must be exposed now.

In his speech Mr Fowler gave a lead, reminding the doom-sayers that "ageing Britain" is not a demographic fact. After peaking in the middle of this decade the total number of pensioners (a growing proportion of whom will come to rely on private occupational schemes for their livelihood after retirement) will tail off. Such projections are of course fallible. Medical advance, changes in behaviour (less smoking for example) will affect mortality. Without doubt there will be mounting costs for the health service from the increased number of the very old; but there will be scope for savings else-

where in the population structure. The projections do not all point in one direction; talk of an emergency in health costs is wild. The expensive might of the Government Information Service could well be mobilised in making intelligible the numbers and the nuances.

Yet a social policy debate that concerns itself with numbers and tax bills alone is going to be partial. Social policy is about family obligation, marriage, private provision as well as the public purse. Ellipsis between the burden of taxes and the "burden" of the elderly - the Prime Minister was guilty of loose talk in July - diminishes that vital sense of inter-generational continuity which holds society together. Any social policy debate must have a wide moral and a legal dimension: which is yet another reason that discussions in the Family Policy Group should never have been narrowly clandestine. Ministers may blanch at making speeches about family duty and divorce but such issues must be discussed. Divorce rates are linked to the cost of care. By the 1990s the disruption in children's obligations towards their parents caused by divorce will be a growing element in the dependence of the elderly on non-family providers of care. There have been occasions in the past when the natural reluctance of Conservatives to investigate society's working, to reduce its opacity, was fitting; now is not the time for squeamishness. Mr Fowler's prescription for maximising openness about the problems and options of social policy is the right one.

TIME FOR A RECOUNT IN GENEVA

It has long been assumed that Soviet negotiators would leave the conference room in Geneva as soon as new missiles were deployed in West Germany. They had to make some kind of gesture, and they also need time to re-think their position. Hitherto their sole aim has been to prevent Western deployments. Every one of their proposals has required that the West refrain from deploying any cruise or Pershing II missiles. (The shadowy "walk in the woods" formula would have stopped only the Pershings, but it was not a formal proposal.) Now that deployments have begun they must decide whether to stick to their original aim or seek a balance that would permit some Western weapons to remain.

It is possible, of course, that they have lost all interest in agreement now that they have failed to get what they wanted. Although the West's zero-zero offer is still available they could persuade themselves that they are better off without an agreement. They already have a big advantage in theatre nuclear forces. They could build on this advantage by continuing to deploy SS-20s and other weapons without restraint while the West has limited itself to 572 new weapons and would find it politically difficult to increase the number.

The Soviets also have another

reason for not hurrying towards an agreement, which is that they do not want to help Mr Reagan to get re-elected. This will not necessarily prevent them showing interest again after a decent pause, especially if they decide that he is going to get re-elected anyway, but if for whatever reason, they decide to resume negotiation they are unlikely to return to the table they have just abandoned. More probably they will seek to bring European theatre weapons into the strategic arms reduction talks (START) which have been running parallel in Geneva. This would greatly complicate the negotiations but would also make sense, since the distinction between theatre and strategic weapons is increasingly meaningless. It would also have the advantage of releasing the West from making the somewhat artificial connection between Soviet SS-20s on the one hand and American Pershings and cruise missiles on the other. Arms control might then be assessed on a more rational basis by both sides, assuming they both genuinely want an agreement.

Meanwhile there will be argument about whose fault it was that the talks failed. Since the Soviet Union was not really interested in balanced arms control but simply in stopping the deployment of particular weapons the main blame lies

with them. The Soviets could have had balance at almost any level between SS-20s and the new Western weapons which would have left them with an overall advantage. Perhaps the West could have gained a substantial reduction of SS-20s in return for abandoning deployment, but it is not clear whether there was a genuine Soviet offer hidden in the final flurry of conflicting signals from Moscow. Even if there was it would have left the Soviet Union with more SS-20s than in 1979; when the Nato decision was made, while defeating the main aim of the decision, which was to couple the American nuclear deterrent more effectively into the defence of Europe.

So it is difficult to argue that an opportunity was lost. What needs to be emphasised more strongly to a doubting public is that when Nato decided on the new weapons in 1979 it also decided to withdraw 1,000 nuclear warheads. Last month it decided to remove a further 2,000 over five years. Assuming that 572 new weapons are deployed there will be a net reduction of 1,428, or about 2,500 since 1979, which will bring the total down to its lowest in 20 years. So the picture of a relentless and provocative Western build-up is false. It is on the other side that the numbers are growing.

NO MESSENGER MARTYRS

On the face of it, the TUC general council gave its blessing yesterday to the National Graphical Association in its defiance of the Employment Acts. The High Court has already imposed a fine on the union for secondary picketing in its long recognition dispute with Messenger Newspapers Group, and the union has refused to pay. The general council has decided to "accept as valid" the union's request for assistance under the resolution passed by last year's special conference at Wembley, at the height of the campaign against the new laws.

Naturally the union is claiming that the movement's leaders have endorsed their action, and the pickets may be encouraged to persist in their efforts. Members of the general council itself may well feel that they could get away with. They issued a strong hint of disapproval of the rough tactics reportedly used by the pickets. The statement accepts the union's request as valid, but it does not go on, as the general council is empowered to do at its discretion by the Wembley formula, to call for financial and industrial support from the movement as a whole. It would be necessary to re-convene the general council and debate the matter again before any more substantial commitments could be entered into.

After Labour's election defeat,

a tentative resumption of contacts with the Government and an annual conference reader than any in recent years to face unpleasant truths, the TUC is not eager to be drawn back into the sterilest of confrontations. Workers are still too concerned about the security of their own jobs to relish a pitched battle, least of all over legislation which has many supporters among the rank and file and does much to protect the individual trade unionist from pressures imposed by his own union. The TUC will not easily be able to negotiate a compromise over political contributions that it is eager to conclude if it has at the same time to man the barricades over Messenger.

In reality, the general council could have done less, and should have done so. It took care last year not to allow itself to be deprived of discretion in judging how and when it should come to a union's aid. The NGA is well able to pay the fine imposed, and much more, without suffering anything like the "severe financial problems" the Wembley conference spoke of. This is a basically law-abiding movement; it must take pains to be seen to be so on the picket line. In addition, the matters remaining in dispute are now so narrow that it would be preposterous to hitch a national campaign on to them.

Unlike the Grunwick case, where the employer was frankly

hostile to trade union representation in his factory, the Messenger dispute involves an employer who will be less easily elevated into the labour movement demagogue. At the weekend the union's main demand for a closed shop throughout the Messenger group was conceded. Negotiations now turn on the employer's refusal to reinstate six dismissed strikers.

Six dismissed strikers make no very resonant rallying-call. The real issue now is whether the union can make the new laws appear unenforceable or irrelevant in practice. How the law should be enforced is for the High Court to decide, and the issue of contempt is sub judice. But there are sanctions available to it, including attachment of the union's considerable funds, which can be imposed without putting trade unionists in prison and making martyrs of them. It would be short-sighted of an outsider to pay the fine on the union's behalf in the hope of averting disruption to his own business: such expedients only store up more trouble for later. The issue is now between the court and the union. As for the general council, it has made its gesture, and the course of true leadership will be for it to stand aside, lest it discredit the movement's claims to respect the law, by throwing its influence behind a union warring on a minor dispute into a national political confrontation.

Woolworth case missgivings

From Lady Phillips

Sir, The misplaced approval with which the handling by a crown court of a recent case involving a charge of theft from a Woolworth store was greeted by the less discerning sections of the press should not be allowed to conceal the fact that the Recorder who dealt with the case did so in an unjudicial and unjust way, with the result that Woolworth's suffered a manifest injustice.

To judge by the report of the case in *The Times* for November 18 the Recorder indulged in florid rhetoric which seems to me quite out of place when judicial impartiality, logical reasoning and a sense of natural justice are called for.

Thus the Recorder said that Woolworth's decision to prosecute a "thief" was "British justice". Surely, the point is that, provided of course the evidence of the woman's actions which Woolworth's had in her possession disclosed a prima facie case of theft, they had a legal right to prosecute, irrespective of her marital status, or her age, or the fact that in some quarters shopkeepers like Woolworth's are considered fair game for thieves.

The Recorder appears to have confused the considerations relevant to the question whether there was a prima facie case against the accused with those considerations relevant to the question what order the court should make if the accused were ultimately found guilty.

I consider the mischief wrought by the Recorder in this misadventure case consists in the encouragement it gives to the notion I have already mentioned, that stores like Woolworth's do not deserve the protection of the law where theft of their goods is alleged by them to have occurred.

Yours sincerely,
PHILLIPS,
Director and Secretary,
Association for the Prevention of Theft in Shops,
303/305 Buildings,
Traveller Square, WC2,
November 21.

Settle-Carlisle line

From Mr M. J. Southgate

Sir, The article concerning the Settle-Carlisle line (November 17) does call for a reply in the face of British Rail being accused of "fiddling" figures.

The figures quoted by Mr Whitehouse might prove more leaky than leaked. They are in fact the wrong ones to study when considering the criteria for closure of the line. They are figures produced for management information only and are not relevant, nor have they been used, to reach any decision about this line.

I want it to be absolutely clear that the criteria for British Rail closure planning has been based on the cost of maintenance and staffing of the route between Settle Junction and Carlisle.

We are confident that the service can be adequately re-routed to serve additional markets and that we can do this in a more economical fashion. Yours faithfully,
M. J. SOUTHGATE,
General Manager,
London Midland Region,
British Railways,
Euston House, NW1.

The Koh-i-Noor

From Mrs N. Byrne

Sir, I phoned today re your article of Tuesday, November 8, page 5 of *The Times*. "India turns acquisitive eyes on the Koh-i-Noor". I would like to point out that it was John Lawrence (my great grandfather) who was given the Koh-i-Noor to deliver to Queen Victoria, but he left it in his coat pocket, and it went to the wash. When he discovered this he asked his doorman, "Did you find a piece of glass in my pocket?" and a piece of the doorman produced it.

This has been a story that I have grown up with and is correct and shows the complete simplicity of John Lawrence, the only Viceroy who was not made a marquess owing to his real love of the simple life. I would be grateful for this to be put right as I am proud to be the great-granddaughter of a humble and God-fearing man, who loved India.

Yours faithfully,
NONA BYRNE,
Roughmore Rise,
East Lavant,
Chichester, West Sussex.

Farm tenancies

From the Director of the University of Oxford Institute of Agricultural Economics

Sir, The recent burst of correspondence in your columns relating to the decline of the traditional British landlord-tenant system, though it has raised many interesting issues, has failed to make the essential point.

There can be no doubt about the magnitude of the problem. In a decade of some fourteen years two million acres of land in England and Wales have moved from the tenant to the owner-occupied sector. My prediction is that the new legislation will have minimal effect in stemming the tide since the CLA/NFU package on which the 1983 Agricultural Holdings Bill is based is a compromise which contains two opposing provisions.

One effect of the Bill, if it is passed, will be to remove one disincentive for landowners with a vacant farm on hand to offer it to a new tenant. To do so at present means that the landowner, under the 1976 Act, cedes his right to re-possession (save in somewhat restricted circumstances) through three generations of tenants. It is ironic that the 1976 Act was originally motivated by an intent to maintain tenancy. In a letter in your columns of October 8, 1981, I

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Policy on prison release and parole

From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Home Office

Sir, Dr Candy's resignation from the Parole Board is a matter of regret to the Home Secretary and myself. His letter to you (November 22) setting out the reasons for his action, however, seriously misrepresents the Home Secretary's policy in relation to the release of life sentence prisoners and the granting of parole.

The Home Secretary's announcement of the minimum period that he would normally expect certain categories of life sentence prisoners to serve does not mean a departure from the fundamental principles governing the consideration of individual cases. Nor does it usurp the role of Parliament.

The statutory position is clear. Before releasing a life-sentence prisoner the Home Secretary receives and will continue to receive advice, in each individual case, from the Parole Board on the risk to the public of releasing the prisoner and from the judiciary on the appropriate length of sentence to be served. But final decisions on the release of life-sentence prisoners rest entirely with the Home Secretary; and he is directly accountable to Parliament for the exercise of that statutory executive discretion. What the Home Secretary has done is to ensure that the policy that he will be following in considering each case that comes before him.

Dr Candy's account of how the Home Secretary's proposal in relation to restricting parole will operate is similarly misleading. All eligible prisoners will continue to be reviewed for parole on the merits of their individual cases. But parole is a privilege, not a right.

Successful Home Secretaries have exercised their statutory discretion

on granting parole in ways which have seemed to them to accord best with the current requirements of the public interest and with the thrust of their general criminal justice policy. Their policies have been reflected in criteria followed by the Parole Board in making recommendations on individual cases and have been made public. The gravity of the offence is one of the factors that has always been included in these criteria.

It is thus entirely appropriate that this Home Secretary should set out his policy clearly for the benefit both of the Parole Board and of the public. The Home Secretary has had a meeting with the General Purposes Committee of the Parole Board in which there was a clear consensus of the way in which his policy should be implemented and the board's role maintained. He will make a detailed statement on this shortly.

Perhaps the most curious criticism in Dr Candy's letter is that the changes in policy announced by the Home Secretary have brought sentencing into the political arena. The Home Secretary has deliberately sought to avoid action which would interfere with the independent exercise by the courts of their sentencing functions. But he is publicly accountable for the exercise of his own statutory responsibilities.

He intends to carry out those responsibilities on the basis of a clearly stated policy which he believes will increase public confidence in the way in which the criminal justice system deals with the most serious and violent offenders sentenced by the courts.

Yours faithfully,
ELTON,
Home Office,
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
November 23.

Greeks and Cyprus

From Sir David Hunt

Sir, In his article in today's *Times* (November 22) Roger Scruton has chosen to refer to the Turkish case on Cyprus in its crudest form; but he should have thought twice before embarking on it with a phrase much used before 1959 by Colonial Service officials, who should have known better, that Cyprus "has never been a Greek possession".

What meaning would he attach to this? That Cyprus had never been ruled from Athens since the Greek nation-state came into existence after 1821? By that criterion Chios "has never been a Greek possession" before 1912 nor Corfu before 1864. Does he consider that those islands are not Greek?

Greek language and culture have been dominant in Cyprus from the end of the second millennium BC, about the same time as in Chios and earlier than in Corfu. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
DAVID HUNT,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.

Turkish invasion

From Mr James Callaghan, MP for Cardiff South and Penarth (Labour)

Sir, In your November 16 edition of *The Times* I was reported as saying in the House of Commons on November 15 with regard to Cyprus—

"The situation is a little different now from 1974, when the Turkish Government asked us to help them invade the island in order to support a gangster called Nikos Sampson who had taken over control of the island... That must have been a slip of the tongue on my part. They asked us to 'overthrow' him, and not 'support' him."

Yours faithfully,
JIM CALLAGHAN,
House of Commons.

Airline competition

From Mr N. Ashton Hill

Sir, May I be permitted through your columns to draw attention to an aspect which seems to have been less noticed than the debt for equipment.

British Airways has inherited a network of scheduled international services which were derived from the once famous schedules of corporation routes exclusively reserved to the nationalised corporations by the 1952 terms of reference. The removal of their monopoly has never altered the situation, which gave the corporation a long head start in its build up

of a very valuable route network of scheduled services.

Is not this usually called goodwill? And is not the value of such intangible assets of the company, the equipment? With a viable route network, it is not difficult to arrange finance for equipment. But without it, it would be impossible.

How is this going to be balanced so as to avoid endangering the independence of operators, and the overall interests of users of air transport?

Yours faithfully,
N. ASHTON HILL, Chairman,
Federation of Air Transport User Representatives in the European Community,
129 Kingsway, WC2.

instruction is effectively contained in a sub-clause which speaks of account being taken of the rent at which "a competent tenant" could reasonably be expected to profit from farming the holding."

The danger in this is that effective suspension of market forces may reproduce the lagged effect on rents which caused so many problems between 1948 and 1958; and continued unwillingness of landowners to offer new tenancies when they are able to do so.

There appears, in the face of the evidence which we have, to be no sound reason for replacing the 1938 formula with a new one of uncertain impact which might effectively undermine the intent of the proposed legislation. It therefore appears important that the whole situation be re-appraised with an effort being made to produce a compromise re-formulation which would avoid both a restrictive rent policy and blockage associated with the 1976 succession provisions.

Unless this can be done the continued decline of a valuable institutional arrangement will not be arrested. Yours faithfully,
G. H. PETER, Director,
University of Oxford,
Institute of Agricultural Economics,
Dartington House,
Little Clarendon Street, Oxford,
November 9.

Individuality of Christian faith

From the General Secretary of The United Reformed Church

Sir, Your leading article of November 21 represents a further attempt to portray Christian faith as a private matter between the individual and God. Such a description of Christianity is comforting to many people in this country, especially to those who find the status quo acceptable. It is a style of religion which conforms to a secularised nation and culture and refuses to disturb the modern norms of society.

But this individualist, introspective emphasis has never been the whole of Christianity. If we seek a summary of what Jesus Christ was about, I would say it was to bring the Kingdom or reign of God, in all its righteousness, forgiveness and self-sacrificing love.

This kingdom has never been recognised solely in the interior life of the human spirit, but always in the total life of women and men in their struggle to live at peace, to face with dignity the terrors of death and to share in the community life of the Church.

It is true that we may easily make mistakes as we seek to interpret the reign of God for the life of our global village. We may jump too readily on bandwagons (whether they drive on the left or right) or rely too much on the latest expert. But to refuse the attempt, to offer no Christian critique, to make no Christian impact on national policies is to surrender. Surrender to what? To the gods of efficiency, profit and national power.

That is not what you, Sir, have in mind, and is not why Christ trod the way to the Cross. The personal and public witness will always need each other.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD THOROGOOD,
General Secretary,
The United Reformed Church,
86 Tavistock Place, WC1,
November 22.

Human rights

From Mr Richard Lethbridge

Sir, My wife and I, one Anglican and one Roman Catholic, thought today's leading article, "The way of the Cross", was absolutely outstanding and thank you for it. It expressed much of what we both think about developments in the Western Church over the last 20 years.

It is very encouraging that a British newspaper can still produce leading articles of such quality and depth - and not a single misprint. Yours faithfully,
RICHARD LETHBRIDGE,
Fowler Manor,
Near Charlbury,
Oxfordshire,
November 21.

Enterprise in milk

From Dr R. W. D. Turner

Sir, Most people would miss the friendly milkman, but if the flavour of UHT is as unpleasant as opponents of keeping EEC law maintain, there will be no problem. Advantages for many are low price and convenience. Low fat UHT is far more palatable, much healthier and likely to be acceptable to many if not most people. Young children anyway adapt to what is around. Enterprise by the UK dairy industry in producing a wide range of low fat UHT milks and milk products is surely indicated. The key questions are why not be enterprising? Why not permit freedom of choice? - and thereby be lawful.

Yours truly,
H. MACL. CURRIE,
Department of Humanities,
Teeside Polytechnic,
Middlesbrough,
Cleveland,
November 22.

Winged chariot

From Mr David Whiffen

Sir, Miss Kerry ten Kate (November 16) is wrong about the smallest measurable interval of time. This is undoubtedly that between the moment you replace a telephone receiver on its hook and the moment you realise you had something else to say.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID WHIFFEN,
9 Elton Place,
Blackheath, SE3,
November 16.

Farm tenancies

From Mr J. A. Walsh

Sir, I used to think the shortest measurable interval of time was the space between the traffic lights in front turning green and the sports car behind sounding its horn.

Lately, however, I have concluded that the speed with which Brussels taxi meters advance 5 francs a click is a clear winner.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. WALSH,
30 Otways Lane,
Ashted,
Surrey,
November 17.

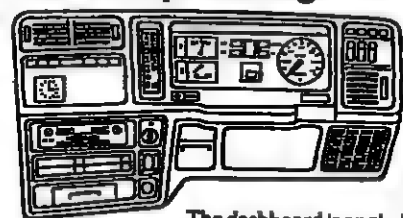


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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Casting doubts on all the soothsayers

All economic forecasting, according to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is extremely suspect and unreliable. This was his initial response to my suggestion that soothsayers outside Whitehall were noticeably more pessimistic about the future growth and the rate of inflation than the Treasury in last week's Autumn Statement.

The point is well made today: the National Institute sees growth faltering and inflation rising, whereas the Treasury predicted that the present three per cent growth rate would be maintained and that inflation, by the end of next year, would be down to 4½ per cent.

Not unnaturally, while maintaining his own scepticism, Mr Lawson would advise anyone wishing to believe in economic forecasts to believe the Treasury's, "because the Treasury since 1979 has a better track record."

So much for the broad canvas. Of all last week's forecasts, the one that caused most eyebrows to rise was the seemingly cautious figure of an extra net £400m (to £1,900m) from the sale of state assets to private investors.

The Chancellor admitted to being "a little bit cautious". Although not the Treasury's figure, the market has been thinking in terms of £4,000m from the sale alone of 51 per cent of British Telecom.

It is now absolutely clear that this huge marketing operation will be well spread over time: the sales proceeds pencilled in the 1984-85 forecasts are merely the first part payment.

The final reckoning will obviously depend on the state of the market at the time of the sale and also on the degree of American buying interest which the Treasury and its City marketeers can drum up.

Mr Lawson is pretty sanguine about the future level of pay settlements. The level in the private sector has been falling steadily without an incomes policy, but under pressure, most would argue, from recession, falling output and rising unemployment.

On the evidence so far, he does not consider economic recovery will bring intolerable pay settlements. The message to management is still: "If they get into difficulties by paying excessive wages we are not going to pump money into the economy simply to get them off the hook."

In the conventional sense, Mr Lawson does not have a burning ambition to be a tax-reforming Chancellor.

"There's a close connexion," he observed, "between tax reform and tax simplification on the one hand and tax reduction on the other. In practical and political terms, it is very difficult to

simplify the taxation system - which could do with simplification - and indeed to introduce any other kind of reform, unless at the same time you're lowering the burden of taxation. I don't however, seek to redraw the whole tax system in this country."

That said, he does have priorities if and when he is in a position to cut taxes. Industry, he feels, "hasn't done too badly lately". Nevertheless, the taxation of industry "is something I would have to take into account when the time comes to weigh up the relative priorities."

His last words in the interview were on the international debt situation. In his view: "The main problem is the excessively high level of dollar interest rates", which went back directly to the size of the American budget deficit. "That is about the biggest cloud on the horizon economically."

It meant that interest rates "will be higher than they would otherwise be, and that is a very serious matter for the debtor countries".

Lawson interview, page 12

Aspinall plays his Anglo hand

Aspinall Holdings has lost no time in doing deals way beyond its Mayfair gaming tables. Just a week after gaining a quotation on the Unlisted Securities Market, it revealed yesterday that it had spent £4.25m buying a 10 per cent stake in Anglo Scottish Investment Trust.

The buying earlier stoutly denied, started the day Aspinall's own shares were first quoted. It has all the hallmarks of Sir James Goldsmith who, like Mr John Aspinall, has a 40 per cent stake in Aspinall Holdings. In particular, it shows his predilection for making money out of a messy situation.

Anglo Scottish is already at the centre of a row. It used to be managed by Gartmore Management. But they were dismissed after Exco International took control of Gartmore in August. Instead Mr Eric Crawford and Mr Sam Stevenson, joint managing directors of Gartmore resigned, set up CS Investments and won the management contract, due to start today. Institutional shareholders, are forcing a vote on the change because Mr Crawford is an Anglo director.

Mr Richard Langdon, Aspinall chairman, maintains his company's holding is an investment rather than a platform for some kind of takeover.

Mr Crawford is not so sure. "It is unlikely it is just there as a holding, they probably have other things on their mind. It's not like them to just take a stake and sit tight."

An unanswered question of trust

Unit trust groups are having a record year. Sales hit £2,000m for the 10 months to the end of October, compared with the previous record of £1,157 for the whole of 1982.

Do these figures really reflect massive public confidence in unit trusts as an investment? Many fund managers, perhaps surprisingly, think "not necessarily so".

The 1980 Finance Act gave unit trusts a huge tax advantage over other investment vehicles, exempting them from Capital Gains Tax.

Insurance companies which run unitized funds (very similar to unit trusts, but linked with life policies) were slow to react. Since 1980, there has been a dribble

of money across from life funds into unit trusts as insurers gradually ran down their unitized funds in favour of unit trusts.

The question is, how much of this year's sales is attributable to genuine buying from the public, and how much is a switch by unitized insurance funds?

Fund managers, anxious to see if they are maintaining their share of new investment by private investors, are pressing the Unit Trust Association to ask members to provide a breakdown of sales, separating institutional business from private investment.

Most fund managers are ready and willing to do this, but two major groups, both merchant banks, refuse to comply. That is a pity.

Institute forecast on growth contradicts Treasury

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

A slowdown in economic growth, rising unemployment and higher inflation are forecast for next year by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, marking a stark contrast with the optimism of the Treasury and some other private forecasters.

The institute's latest economic review expects national output next year to average about 2 per cent more than this year, similar to the rise between 1982 and 1983. But, it says, looking at average levels "obscures the view taken of prospects from now on".

Output is forecast to increase at an annual rate of little more than 1 per cent over the next two years, too slow to stop unemployment from climbing further.

In 1985, if policy remains unchanged, unemployment will be 400,000 higher than today at 3.3 million.

The Treasury's latest forecasts, published last week, predict growth of 3 per cent this year and next, with unemployment stabilizing below 3 million, and inflation dropping to 4.5 per cent by the end of next year.

The main difference between the institute and the Treasury lies in their assessment of what is likely to happen to consumer spending. The institute predicts growth of only 0.3 per cent next year as inflation, rising to nearly 7 per cent by the end of 1984, catches up with pay increases and the impact of easier credit terms fades.

The Treasury is assuming a 2.5 per cent rise in consumer spending, after 3.5 per cent this year, on the expectation that inflation will ease further and consumers will continue to borrow heavily.

On investment, exports and

stocks there is little difference of opinion between the two.

The institute has also looked five years ahead to 1988, using simulations based on different sets of assumptions. On present policies, it says, the economy might grow by about 1.5 per cent a year, with unemployment rising to 3.5 million and inflation sticking at between 7 per cent and 7.5 per cent.

The simulations suggest output and employment could be boosted by more expansionary fiscal policies, including tax cuts and higher public spending, with relatively little cost in higher inflation.

But the institute gives a warning that "With North Sea production now at or near its peak, the need to maintain a tolerable balance of payments could re-emerge as an obstacle to faster growth in the next few years."

● The pace of job losses in manufacturing industry slowed further in the third quarter this year, while productivity picked up sharply, according to the November issue of the Department of Employment Gazette.

Manufacturing employment fell by 29,000 between July and September, compared with 58,000 in the previous three months and 90,000 in the last quarter of 1982.

The number of people with jobs in the economy as a whole has begun to rise for the first time since late 1979, according to employment department statistics. An increase in employment in the service industries, coupled with an assumed increase of 25,000 in the self-employed, produced a rise of 18,000 in the employed labour force in the second quarter.

SE review may halve council membership

By Wayne Lintott

The 46-member governing Council of the Stock Exchange may be cut by more than half under a review now being made by its chairman, Sir Nicholas Goodison. A membership of about 20 is favoured within the Exchange.

The council is expected to announce shortly before Christmas the appointment of at least five lay members to its numbers, now all drawn from member firms. It will also make lay members a majority on the disciplinary appeals committee. A new appeal body will also be formed to cover membership.

The appointments are a central part of the agreement reached by the Stock Exchange with the Government to avoid restrictive Trade Practices Court action. The agreement was ratified by Parliament on Tuesday.

The Government says it wants to see the changes pushed through as quickly as possible, but no names have been mentioned as definite appointments. The council, working with the Bank of England and Department of Trade and Industry, is still seeking suitable candidates prepared to serve.

The review of the council's operating procedure and its control over subordinate committees, on which lay members of the council may also serve, has arisen to make decision making efficient. It is felt in the Stock Exchange that a council consisting of more than 50 members may be too cumbersome.

The eventual number of lay members will be determined by the final decision on size.

The council is expected to announce tomorrow the long awaited news that member firms may appoint outside non-executive directors to their partnerships or boards to represent the interest of outside shareholders. The senior partners at Smith Brothers, the jobbers, have been lobbying particularly keenly for this.

Also waiting in the wings to appoint outsiders are the four firms in which leading financial institutions have taken the maximum permitted stake, 29.9 per cent.

Beckett steps up tax policy attack

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, has again stepped up his attacks on government policy since his declaration three years ago that industry should be prepared for a "bare knuckle fight" with the Government, despite recent criticism that the CBI was "whingeing" in calling for a new government stimulus to the economy.

It would be wrong for Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, to raise taxes in next spring's budget, Sir Terence said in Nottingham. "It could kill the recovery not sustain it," he said.

The CBI is much less optimistic about the health of the economy than the Government, believing that overall growth next year will slip back to about 2 per cent, compared with the Treasury's more optimistic prediction of 3 per cent.

The consumer boom is solely responsible for the slow upturn in the economy and there are fewer signs that manufacturing industry's prospects will continue to improve, according to CBI surveys.

Delegates at the annual CBI



Sir Terence: increased taxes could kill recovery.

conference this month were in agreement that some stimulus to economic growth could occur hand-in-hand with the continuing drive to reduce inflation and bring down interest rates.

Sir Terence also seized the opportunity yesterday to attack Mr Lawson's decisions to raise National Insurance contributions and energy prices.

"Industries like chemicals, paper, glass, steel and man-made fibres are paying 20 per cent more for their electricity than their European rivals. They need a reduction in their charges, not an increase."

Sharp's the word at C & W

By Our Financial Staff

The board of Cable & Wireless lived up to the name of its headquarters building, Mercury, when it sped through an extraordinary meeting yesterday in a record time of 2 minutes 50 seconds.

The meeting had been called to issue a special preference share of £1 to the Government, which intends to sell half its 45 per cent stake soon.

The share gives the Government the power of veto on any winding up of the company or any material disposal of its assets and certain, but unspecified, "other events".

Mr Eric Sharp, chairman, also informed the 20 shareholders that turned up, that article 120 will be altered to ensure that future chief executives of the company are British citizens.

On the dot of 4 pm Mr Sharp called the meeting to order, asked shareholders to take the special resolution as read and then offered to answer any questions. None were asked.

At least 40 seconds were wasted while shareholders dithered over which one would second the motion. That taken care of, they voted unanimously to support the board.

Mr Sharp then thanked them for attending, he hoped they at least had enjoyed a cup of tea - and the meeting was closed.

Call to upgrade local chambers

Britain's chambers of commerce should be given legal status and be beefed up to take over some of the functions carried out by local authorities, according to a report out today.

The chambers could administer trading standards, monitor the disposal of toxic wastes, run local airports and promote tourism and exports, the report says. They could also become more closely involved in vocational training.

The report, by Miss Norvala Foster, a Conservative MEP, is the result of an 18-month study into European chambers of commerce.

It suggests that membership of chambers could be made obligatory.

Travel agents to merge

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Hogg Robinson Travel, dropped to between £5m and £6m and there was increasing speculation that Hogg Robinson wanted to bring it below £5m.

Although Hogg Robinson has slightly fewer travel shops than Wakefield, the merger would create the third largest travel agency chain in Britain.

Hogg Robinson would not comment last night.

Talks between Hogg Robinson and Wakefield's privately-owned parent, which has strong Netherlands connections, have been going on for more than 12 weeks.

Originally the talks are believed to have centred on a price of about £8m for Wakefield, which has 95 branches. The price was later

dropped to between £5m and £6m and there was increasing speculation that Hogg Robinson wanted to bring it below £5m.

Wakefield is profitable at the trading level but has not been making a bottom line contribution to HAL because it has been working off losses incurred up to three years ago and is also servicing recent extensive investments.

Fraser wins court case

The House of Fraser stores group yesterday defeated an action in the Edinburgh Court of Session by Lounho, its leading shareholder, over plans to spend £100m on modernizing about 50 stores.

Lounho's two directors on the Fraser board had applied to the court for an interim interdict which would have prevented Fraser proceeding with its plans until the full board had been given detailed information.

Major decisions of Fraser are taken by an executive committee, but referred back to the full board for approval. Fraser says that had the case been won by Lord Duncan-Sandys, Lounho chairman, and Mr Roland "Tay" Rowland, Lounho's chief executive, they would have been able to take Fraser to court to justify major items of capital expenditure.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 724.4 down 1.3
FT 100 Index 83.19 down 0.27
FT All Share 452.55 down 0.80
Bargains: 18,035
Datastream USM Leaders Index 54.55 down 0.2
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,276.93 up 1.12
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 833.97 down 2.0
Amsterdam: 152.1 up 1.6
Sydney: AO Index 722.2 up 4.9
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1012.5 up 9.2
Brussels: General Index 128.73 up 0.6
Paris: CAC Index 150.3 up 0.6
Zurich: SKA General 296.5 up 1.5

CURRENCIES

STERLING
\$1.4680 down 45pts
Index 83.4 down 0.1
DM 3.86 down 0.0050
FF 12.0425 down 0.0325
Yen 344.50 down 1.50
Dollar Index 128.4 up 0.5
DM 2.6850 down 25
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4680
Dollar DM 2.7040

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 8½
3 month interbank 9½-9¼
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9½-9¼/16
3 month DM 6½-6¼/16
3 month FF 13½-13

US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9½
Treasury long bond 102½/32-102½/32

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period October 5 to November 1, 1983 inclusive: 9.393 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$375.75 pm \$375.75
close \$375.75-\$376.50
(£255.25)
New York latest: \$375.75
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$387-388.50 (£263-264.50)
Sovereigns (new):
\$88-89 (£60-60.50)
"Excludes VAT"

NEWS IN BRIEF

Allianz bid 'waiting for Whitehall'

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank advisers to the West German insurer Allianz Versicherungs, explained yesterday why it has taken so long for Allianz to respond to BAT Industries rival takeover bid for Eagle Star Holdings.

It said Allianz is still awaiting government clearance for its original bid. This approval - that Allianz's chairman is a suitable person to run an insurance company - is expected today or tomorrow.

Allianz's offer lapses tomorrow but it is not obliged to reveal its next move until Monday.

● Johnson Matthey, the precious metal refiners and bankers, suffered a fall in pretax profits from £18.4m to £15.2m in the six months to end September. The dividend was maintained at 3p net while earnings per share declined from 15.9 to 15.5p. The shares gained 15p to 223p.

Page 18

● International Thomson Organisation, the oil and publishing multinational, increased its earnings before extraordinary items for the nine months to the end of September by 36.5 per cent to £60.2m. Earnings per share were 43.2

● One of the proposals to be put to Unilever's shareholders on December 12 is to restore the authorized capital not the issued capital, as stated on November 21, to its original figure.

Dow dips in active trading

New York (AP Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks moved sharply downward in active early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average fell about 3.5 points to 1,272, while the transportation average dropped more than six points to 606.

Declines edged ahead of advances by about seven-to-six. Honeywell was down 1 at 133½. International Business Machines was down 2½ to 120½. General Motors fell ¾ to 76½. Ford fell 1½ to 64½. Chase Manhattan fell ¾ to 46; Motorola fell 2½ to 137½ and

American Telephone and Telegraph rose ¼ to 64½. National Semiconductor fell 47½ to 34½. McDonnell Douglas at 58½ was up 2.

Mr Gene Jay Seagle of Herzfeld & Stern said of the market: "We had a sharp enough move up from the 1,215 test area to deserve a day or two of rest here. However, it is clear we are in a renewed phase of the major trend upward."

Barratt attacks TV programme

Private building orders up 9%

By John Lawless

New orders for the private construction industry rose by 9 per cent in the three months ending September over the previous quarter.

But the rise over the same period in 1982 was even more impressive - 16 per cent, the Department of the Environment announced yesterday.

There were strong increases in all sectors except private housing, where there was a 4 per cent fall over the previous three months. Given that private housing starts, announced this month, for the third quarter, were also down on the second - from 46,500 to 42,400 - the private housing situation could cause the Government some anxiety.

New orders in that sector, however, were 21 per cent higher than in the same period in 1982, when there were 38,700 starts.

The figures, based on the value of orders at constant 1980 prices, contrast with public

sector housing, which rose 26 per cent, but stood still against the comparable period last year.

A rise in orders could have been expected, however, given the lowly starts figure in the third quarter. At 9,200 it compared with 13,000 in the second quarter, and 12,600 in the same period of 1982.

New orders in the public works rose 10 per cent over the previous quarter, and 25 per cent over the same period in 1982.

Private industrial orders rose 18 and 20 per cent for the two periods, but private commercial orders, mainly for offices, rose by 11 and 4 per cent.

The value of public-sector housing new orders in the third quarter was provisionally put at £253m; and private housing at £771m.

● Barratt Developments has lodged a formal complaint with the Independent Broadcasting Authority alleging that a Granada Television World in Action



Sir Nicholas Goodison: aiming for greater efficiency.

Pretax profits up 62% to £6.02m.

Total dividend up 23.5% to 5.25p plus one for one share bonus.

No. 1 in the UK

Last year 500,000 cars passed through 14 BCA auction centres giving us 10% of the UK secondhand car market.

No. 2 in the USA

BCA now own six auctions in the US and a further four acquisitions are planned. The US now accounts for 45% of BCA's turnover of £685m (1982-£299m).

Trading up in the UK

Fleet vehicles, heavy commercial vehicles and plant account for the increasing proportion of BCA's UK business.

The outlook

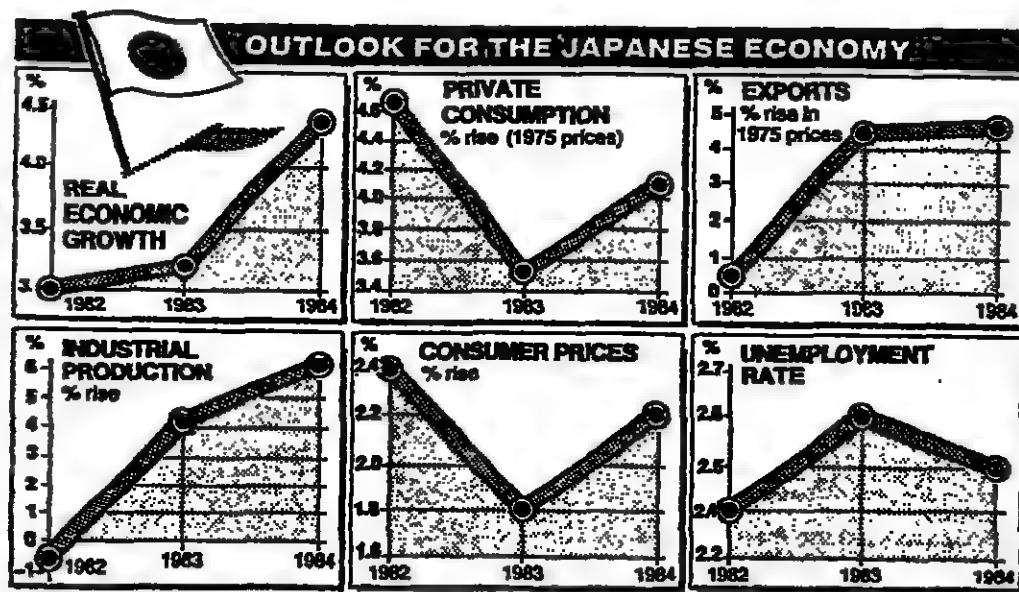
Chairman Mr. David Wickins is looking for further progress in 1984 especially from the USA. In his Statement he comments: "Every car, coach, truck and van on the road is a used vehicle. The market is vast and growing every day... I have no reason to doubt that 1984 will again be a record year and I shall certainly do everything I can to make it so."

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In the first of a two-part series, Richard Hanson looks at the policymakers' dilemmas

Where does Japan's stumbling economic miracle go from here?



This year, it partly explains why Japan's relations with its main trading partners are at a precarious juncture. Recently announced measures designed to mollify trading partners and stimulate domestic demand - notably tax cuts and a modest boost in public spending - will be slow to work their way into the economy. Politicians have not helped. Parliament was at a deadlock for more than a month after the October 12 bribery conviction of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, delaying legislation on economic measures, and forcing the Prime Minister, Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, into the awkward position of having to call a general election in December.

A prolonged political crisis could threaten growth targets

A prolonged crisis could threaten the country's growth targets. That is what happened when the Lockheed scandal first broke in 1976. What is also apparent now is that Japan's trading partners have begun to add up how much they are contributing to Japan's recovery. The cost is in the form of ballooning bilateral trade deficits. They are not amused. Both the EEC and the US have brought strong pressure for measures to cut these deficits, liberalize further trade and financial markets and "internationalize" the yen.

Japan's trade surplus in the half year from April-September rose to \$18m, compared with \$20 billion for the previous twelve months. Encouraged by recovery in the US, exports, by electronic goods and components, were up 4.5 per cent while imports, mainly oil and raw materials, fell 6.5 per cent. In the same six months, the current account surplus, which includes trade in invisibles, expanded nearly 40 per cent over the previous full-year's total.

The export-led recovery could peter out before the spring

What can Japan do about these pressures? It seems very little. Under normal circumstances, a growing trade surplus should work in favour of strengthening the yen, hence making Japanese goods less competitive abroad. This may happen, but Japanese investors lured by higher US interest rates invested \$10 billion abroad between April and September. This kept the yen weak against the US currency despite efforts by the authorities to discourage capital outflows. However, the yen now trades at record highs against such European currencies as the Deutschmark.

The idea is that opening up Japanese markets and enhancing the use of the yen worldwide will serve to correct imbalances between the yen and the dollar and hence smooth out distortions in trade. Setting up a committee represents an acceptable diplomatic answer to resolving the currency question. Policy, however, must still be left to the experts in the government, whose options are limited. Measures announced, or

The export-led recovery could peter out before the spring

being considered, while Mr. Reagan was in Japan will provide no quick answer to either exchange rates or trade tensions. They mainly involve making the Tokyo foreign exchange market more flexible in hedging future contracts, and paving the way for greater two-way access for investors and borrowers (including the possibility of Japan issuing US dollar bonds). It is absurd to think that the Japanese government can successfully manipulate the value of its currency higher, a feat which all other western governments' markets seem to understand. Better than that, perhaps, is the fact that all the fundamentals point towards a stronger yen next year, which would bring relief. If the yen remains weak

against the dollar, the ability of Japan's economic policy makers to act will stay limited. Heavy fiscal spending in the 1970s has left Japan with a national debt problem which Japanese politicians seem unable to tackle with serious tax and other reform. Instead, Japan is headed for a fourth consecutive year of austere national budgets.

Monetary policy has been hamstrung by the gap between Japanese and overseas interest rates, and what this means for the yen, as part of the government's economic and trade package last month. The Bank of Japan, in a display of political expediency, cut its discount rate from 5.5 per cent to 5 per cent. This was the first drop since December 1981, but the impact will be largely psychological. It has not helped the yen.

Making matters worse, protectionism, once a looming threat, is already a reality which means some form of control is already imposed on about 40 per cent of Japan's exports to the US.

The worry facing economic planners is that the export-led recovery could peter out before next spring - either because of a slowdown of US recovery, or because the US and Europe start putting up more barriers against Japanese exports," said one commentator.

The most obvious way to prevent this from happening is to begin rebalancing domestic demand as soon as possible. Mr. Nobumitsu Kagami, an economist with Jardine Fleming, joins others in puzzling over why the government has been mostly complacent about this.

"Although autonomous forces are now in place and we will probably see a period of domestic demand-led growth... there is a serious danger that the present upturn will be aborted unless the government reverses its highly restrictive fiscal policy stance," he says. An economist for Marubeni, the large general trading house, adds the cautionary note that even though exports appear to be giving the economy a lift a true export-led recovery has failed to take hold.

Businesses which are exporting are not stepping up investment for new plant and equipment to meet new demand at anywhere near the pace required to stimulate the rest of the economy.

A recent survey by the Japan Development Bank shows that planned capital spending in the manufacturing sector is expected to fall 1.8 per cent this year compared with a 3.8 per cent rise last year.

The inability within the government to get things moving does not bode well. One Western observer said: "In the longer term, the lack of imagination demonstrated (by government measures) seems likely to confirm the government's growing reputation for excessive caution and lack of vision in economic management."

Tomorrow: the trade circles

The myth of excess capacity

The miserable existence of 3 million people who want work but can find none makes it hard to make objective judgements about the state of the economic cycle. By any traditional tests, even half that number out of work would mean that industry must be operating far below its capacity.

The registered jobless would have to fall below 500,000 before talk of the economy overheating could attract any credence. Yet, however much those on the dole represent unused resources for the nation, this is now almost irrelevant to short-term trends in the economy.

If you leave unemployment to one side, it is beginning to look, as Mr. Roger Nightingale of House of Lords has argued for months, as if parts of the economy are indeed in danger of overheating unless the growth of demand tails off next year.

In some sectors, such as steel, foundries or construction, they are crying out for work. Apparently Deanshield Industrial rationalisation has still not kept pace with the lack of orders.

In many more, if the anecdotal evidence of managing directors is anything to go by, they are operating with no more than the normal margin of spare capacity. In other words, they might squeeze 15 per cent more out of their factories but would rapidly run into increasing costs such as overtime if they tried. This is quite different from operating at 15 per cent below optimum capacity.

Even in some cases where there is apparently huge spare capacity, such as motor vehicle tyres, it is nominal rather than real, because higher productivity has restored the cuts made when physical capacity was used to bring output in line with the permanently lower needs and potential of Britain's car and lorry factories.

Such plant closures and mothballing of factories have clearly made the greatest impact in cutting out potential to produce. Huge amounts of investment have simply disappeared, although productivity has worked the other way.

This is not simply a rational process of knocking out factories and products that have become uneconomical. Companies are not so frightened that they can be sure what is a permanent change and what markets might later recover.

In any case, under strong financial pressure, many soundly managed companies have given closure the benefit of the doubt.

no less than 35 British manufacturing and distribution units, almost 2 million square feet of space, since 1980, "because we could see no significant long-term recovery in output" in the key customer industries of cars, commercial vehicles and diesel engines.

The labour shake-out to achieve optimum manning for current output, plus the failure to employ and develop the skills of the new generation of workers has also itself detracted from productive potential. Many firms, not just high-tech ones, now report apparently anomalous shortages of skilled labour.

The cautious OECD Secretary suggested these two factors might have cut potential manufacturing output by up to 10 per cent between 1978 and 1982 and the process has continued this year.

Even the latest National Institute Economic Review, while stressing that capital utilization is low, admits that official figures underestimate the amount of capital scrapped. "We cannot therefore rule out the possibility," says the Institute, "that within the next five years output and employment in some sectors will be constrained by a lack of productive capacity".

Another factor, hard to measure, is the increased caution of managers in predicting future demand and committing themselves to investment in expansion.

The latest report from Britain's footwear manufacturers, for instance, shows orders booming, the highest capacity usage for a decade (following a series of closures last year), overtime doubled in a year and some shortages of skilled labour. Yet there is little desire to expand. An industry spokesman explained that "experience has taught the industry to look ahead with caution and it is not hard to list doubts." Any company that has gone through the trauma and expense of closure and redundancy needs a strong nerve to reverse the process.

This adds weight to the argument that any official intervention in the economy should be geared to switching the pressure of demand from consumption to investment - public or private - where there is still a chronic shortage of work.

Graham Searjeant

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Graham Searjeant

WALL STREET

	Nov 22	Nov 21	Nov 20	Nov 19	Nov 18	Nov 17	Nov 16	Nov 15	Nov 14	Nov 13	Nov 12	Nov 11	Nov 10	Nov 9	Nov 8	Nov 7	Nov 6	Nov 5	Nov 4	Nov 3	Nov 2	Nov 1	Oct 31	Oct 30	Oct 29	Oct 28	Oct 27	Oct 26	Oct 25	Oct 24	Oct 23	Oct 22	Oct 21	Oct 20	Oct 19	Oct 18	Oct 17	Oct 16	Oct 15	Oct 14	Oct 13	Oct 12	Oct 11	Oct 10	Oct 9	Oct 8	Oct 7	Oct 6	Oct 5	Oct 4	Oct 3	Oct 2	Oct 1	Sept 30	Sept 29	Sept 28	Sept 27	Sept 26	Sept 25	Sept 24	Sept 23	Sept 22	Sept 21	Sept 20	Sept 19	Sept 18	Sept 17	Sept 16	Sept 15	Sept 14	Sept 13	Sept 12	Sept 11	Sept 10	Sept 9	Sept 8	Sept 7	Sept 6	Sept 5	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 2	Sept 1	Aug 31	Aug 30	Aug 29	Aug 28	Aug 27	Aug 26	Aug 25	Aug 24	Aug 23	Aug 22	Aug 21	Aug 20	Aug 19	Aug 18	Aug 17	Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	July 31	July 30	July 29	July 28	July 27	July 26	July 25	July 24	July 23	July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 15	July 14	July 13	July 12	July 11	July 10	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6	July 5	July 4	July 3	July 2	July 1	June 30	June 29	June 28	June 27	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	June 17	June 16	June 15	June 14	June 13	June 12	June 11	June 10	June 9	June 8	June 7	June 6	June 5	June 4	June 3	June 2	June 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 28	May 27	May 26	May 25	May 24	May 23	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	April 30	April 29	April 28	April 27	April 26	April 25	April 24	April 23	April 22	April 21	April 20	April 19	April 18	April 17	April 16	April 15	April 14	April 13	April 12	April 11	April 10	April 9	April 8	April 7	April 6	April 5	April 4	April 3	April 2	April 1	March 31	March 30	March 29	March 28	March 27	March 26	March 25	March 24	March 23	March 22	March 21	March 20	March 19	March 18	March 17	March 16	March 15	March 14	March 13	March 12	March 11	March 10	March 9	March 8	March 7	March 6	March 5	March 4	March 3	March 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Based on an industrial heritage stretching back more than 200 years, this Shropshire town moves into a new era tomorrow with the opening of the M54 motorway. David Felton explains the importance of a fast, easy route to the west Midlands.

Telford A SPECIAL REPORT



A 17-mile stretch of motorway running through the Shropshire and Staffordshire countryside is to be opened tomorrow and on it hangs the future success of the new town of Telford which has suffered severe growing pains over the last 20 years.

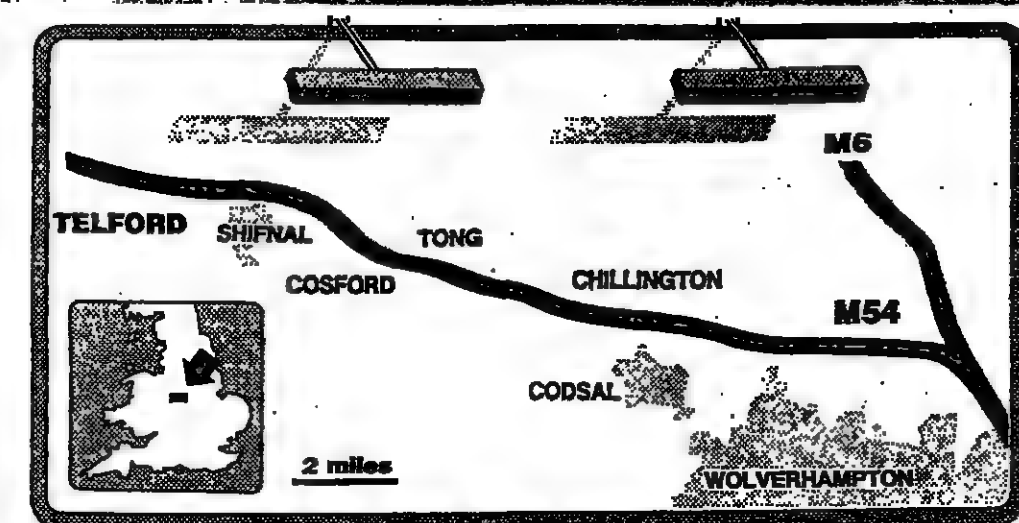
The M54 Telford motorway links the east Shropshire new town with the M6 and so brings Birmingham and the West Midlands conurbation much closer. Telford will also have a 2,700-acre enterprise zone from January and a dual pronged attack is now to be launched on the 21 per cent unemployment rate which is the highest in the west Midlands.

For a town which started out as Dawley new town in 1963 and painted a picture of a brave new world for the Birmingham and Wolverhampton overspill population, it was designed to accommodate, Telford has been hard hit by the recession and so has been unable to meet completely the challenge it was set. Industry has been reluctant to move to the town while the area's traditional manufacturing base has been steadily reduced.

time since the recession started to bite in the middle of 1979. Telford Development Corporation, charged with expanding the town in 1968 when Dawley new town was enlarged to take in Oakengates and Wellington and surrounding areas, claims to have created 17,000 new jobs through the establishment in the town of 400 new companies. But as the job creation programme has continued apace indigenous employers have been in decline. The area is steeped in industrial history based on the east Shropshire coalfield and plentiful supplies of iron ore. As the birthplace of the industrial revolution in Ironbridge, Coalbrookdale and the surrounding areas the base was set for heavy engineering, or "metal bashing" in the words of one development corporation official, and that has continued up to the present day.

Job losses could be a thing of the past

But the ability of local companies like GKN Sankey, Glynwed Foundries and Ever Ready to withstand the recession was weak and since 1971 employment in indigenous industries has fallen from 17,500 to a little over 10,000. Development corporation officials are hoping that net job losses for the town are a thing of the past and are eager to capitalize on the motorway and enterprise zone. Lord Northfield, chairman of the develop-



One man with a broom puts the finishing touches to the M54, 17 miles of four-lane carriageway named after engineer Thomas Telford which opens tomorrow and links the new town bearing his name with the country's motorway network. Right: casting a line in the river Sever in the shadow of Ironbridge, Telford's major landmark.

ment corporation, says: "We have established the framework of a modern industrial city based upon the new technologies, the microchip, robotics and automation, upon which the whole future of our country depends. It is no idle boast when I tell the world that Telford is truly the growth point of modern industry in the west Midlands."

A main plank of the town's industrial strategy has been to take Telford's name to multinationals based overseas and that strategy appears to be paying off with two major Japanese investments in Telford announced recently. Maxell, a subsidiary of Hitachi will next year open a plant in the town manufacturing video cassette

tapes and Ricoh, the world's biggest producer of photocopiers, is to build a manufacturing plant in the enterprise zone. But while there is universal acclaim for the motorway, many in the town are bitter that it has taken so long to be built. One industrialist said that it was 15 years too late for Telford, while Mr Mike Osborne, deputy general manager of the development corporation, said: "If we'd had the motorway earlier we should have had a lot less unemployment. We would have attracted bigger industries here at an earlier date which would have negated to an extent the horrifying job losses we had in the 1970s and early 1980s."

Changed national economic circumstances led to a downward revision of the town's original population target of 220,000 set in 1968 and now the aim is to increase from the present 107,000 to around 130,000 by about 1990. The direction the town was to take was also changed as it no longer was to be an overspill area for Birmingham but rather an attempt to instil new economic life into the decaying area of the old East Shropshire coalfield and become the economic growth point of the west Midlands. A serious problem for the engineers building the town has been the vast number of disused mine shafts that litter the area and which have to be made safe before the land can be used, and

at the last count 1,421 shafts had been capped. The town has its local critics who claim that development has destroyed communities that existed prior to designation, but the planners reject the argument and point to the impact they have had on the environment through land reclamation.

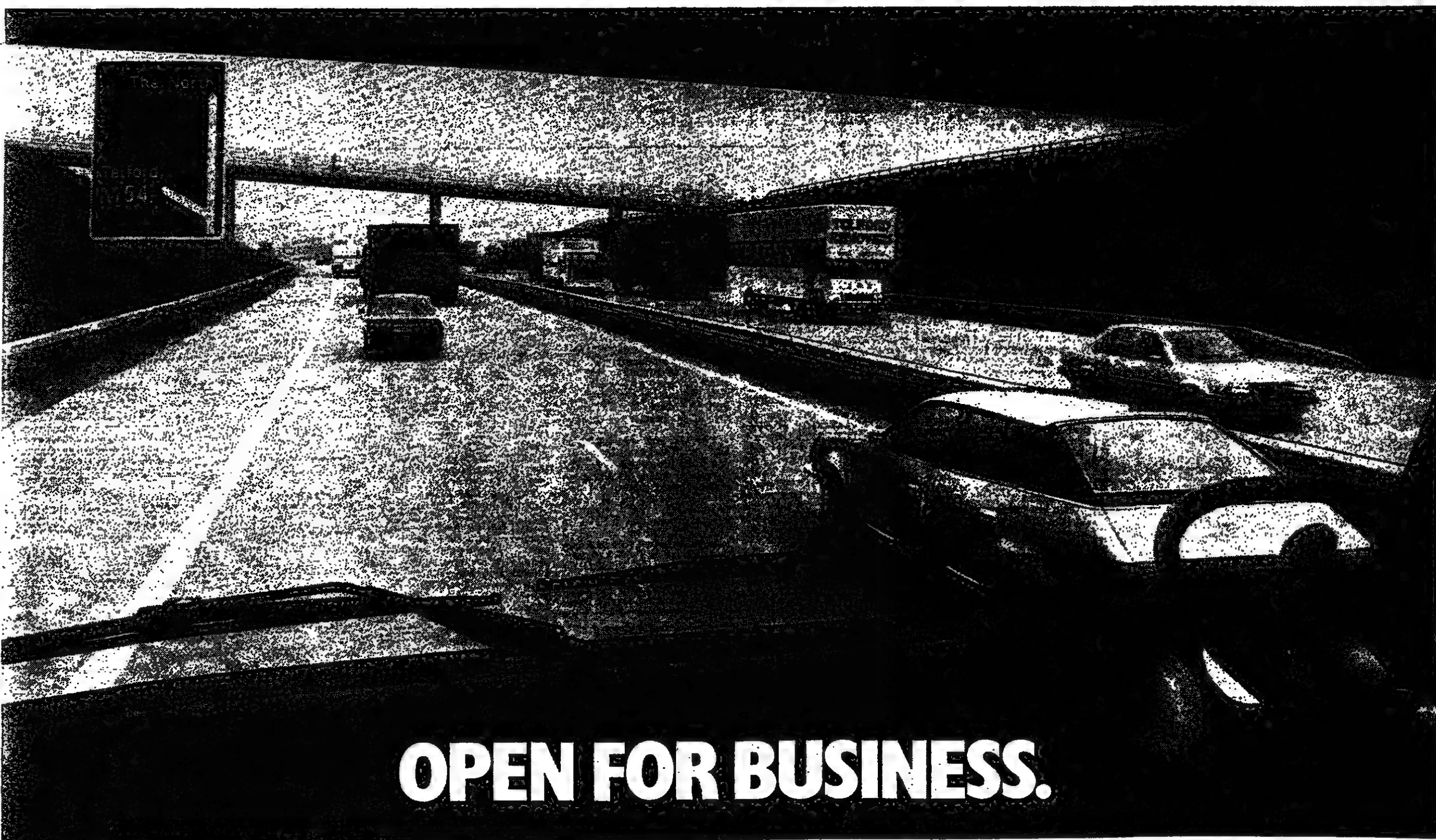
"As the latest annual report sent by the development corporation to the Government states: "The transformation of the abandoned east Shropshire coalfield into beautiful and valuable, Shropshire countryside is a factor which plays no small part in attracting investment in housing, commerce and industry to the new town."

The report goes on to paint a bleak picture of the short-term future for Telford's unemployed. "Not only has unemployment remained tragically high, but the figure, though stable, has masked real growth in youth unemployment and in long term unemployment. With the most optimistic forecasts showing only a slow decrease in unemployment the problems and consequences of unemployment are likely to be with us for years to come," it says. A promising sign is the growing trend of "trading up" to bigger premises of companies that were established first in small factory units, but the corporation is critical of the reluctance of the private sector to finance industrial development. "While there has been considerable success in selling to owner-occupiers the institutional investors demand in-

vestment criteria that are frequently incompatible with the flexibility that a new town development corporation needs in managing its estates with employment growth as the main objective," the annual report says.

It will be the development corporation's ability to overcome all the problems facing the town which will make or break Telford but with the advent of the M54 and the enterprise zone prospects look brighter.

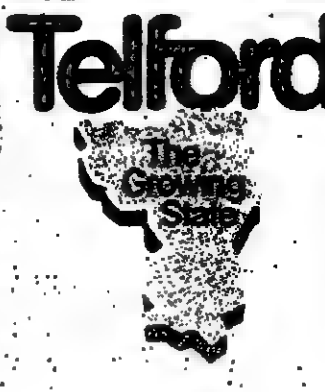
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The £62m motorway link with a man called Telford

Thomas Telford, one of the leading road and bridge engineers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, built numerous roads in his time, but not many could have been as important as the M54 which opens tomorrow and links the new town bearing his name with the country's motorway network.

The Telford motorway, 17 miles of four lane carriageway costing £62m, provides a direct link with the M6 and the West Midlands along a fast road instead of the narrow A5 trunk road and brings the centre of Birmingham to within 30 minutes' driving time of the centre of Telford.

The motorway had almost become a test of vitality for Telford because after many delays caused by objections from the environmentalists' lobby it began to appear that the

whole future of the town hung in getting the motorway built. The kind of companies Telford was trying to attract were reluctant to bring their investment, and jobs, to the town when the link with the M6 was the tortuously-slow A5.

First approval was given for the M54 by the Government in 1973 when the plan was for a six lane road costing £1m a mile. Over the period of three public inquiries, called after strong objections from landowners along the route in Shropshire and Staffordshire and environmentalists who argued it would cause irreparable damage to unsightly countryside, the cost escalated and the road was reduced in size.

The wrangling finally came to an end just over two years ago and in the intervening period the motorway has been in four

sections, and when Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, performs the opening ceremony tomorrow, the town of Telford will have a collective sigh of relief.

Lord Northfield, chairman of Telford Development Corporation, says the M54 has been talked about for so long that people think it is going to produce miracles overnight. "By itself it will do no such thing, but together with several other factors, it will enhance the image of Telford which is increasingly bringing us to the notice of industry and commerce worldwide."

"Undoubtedly the M54 will make a profound difference to us, in industry, commerce, tourism, house building and leisure. I see the M54 as the starting point for a new boom period, bringing jobs more quickly as more industrialists

are encouraged to set up in the town and more people wanting to come and live in this delightful, dynamic environment," Lord Northfield said.

Several concessions have been made to the environmentalists in the form of changed plans, notably with the reduction of six lanes to four and through lowering the road so that it is hidden from view. Nesting boxes for swallows have been constructed under some of the bridges in order that breeding patterns are not disturbed, and half a million cubic metres of colliery waste has been removed from the Hilton Main colliery near the M6 to provide screening mounds.

The motorway was built through five contracts, with the four sections being constructed simultaneously and the fifth contract covering the Forge

Junction interchange which links the motorway to the town's main shopping centre and business park. The approach to Telford is marked by a tri-hedral spire standing 70 feet above one of the main roundabout junctions for the industrial areas. The structure, constructed from three pre-cast concrete triangular units, so finished in sky blue and white cement to give it a brilliant white appearance.

The 17 miles of motorway stretches from its junction with the M6 at Essington just south of the Hilton Park service area to the town centre where it will link with the already open section of urban motorway which goes through the northern part of the town before linking with the A5 trunk road near the landmark Wrekin mountain on the western edge of Telford. In addition to boosting business

traffic with Telford the new motorway will be a big time saver for holidaymakers travelling to mid and north Wales.

Telford's attention will now switch to attempts to improve rail links with the rest of the country. The four direct inter city links between Telford and London each day are to be supplemented by a fifth train next year but town developers are trying to persuade British Rail to seek government approval for electrification of track between Shrewsbury and Wolverhampton.

BR is under pressure to take a quick decision because the present diesel rolling stock is rapidly reaching the end of its useful life. The development corporation is also having discussions with BR on proposed new railway station to serve the town centre which is expected to cost around £1m.

ENTERPRIZE ZONE

The rush by new firms eager to move in

The industrial map of Telford is likely to start changing dramatically over the next year or so following the town's designation by the Government as an enterprise zone. The announcement of its new status, with the attendant incentives industry, which has co-incided with completion of the M54 link, has provided a strong fillip to the town's confidence.

Already the first 22 acres of the 270 acre enterprise zone has been allocated to the Japanese copier manufacturer Ricoh which plans to make the town its European manufacturing base and will employ 110 people when it starts operations next January. Mike Morgan, manager of the zone and commercial director of Telford Development Corporation says that designations has led to a rash of inquiries from companies eager to move to the east Shropshire new town.

Previously Telford has had to compete for new industrial development with areas that have either been given special financial assistance by the Government or were able to boast better road communications. Now Telford has the dual advantage of the enterprise zone and the motorway link with the M6 to use against its opponents in the search for new industry.

Formal designation of the enterprise zone takes place in January, but already the industrial salesmen from Telford are courting overseas pushing the extra advantages of moving to the town now, and so continuing the strategy of seeking investment and jobs from big companies in the new high technology industries.

The enterprise zone is divided into five areas. The first zone is in the new town centre adjoining the indoor shopping centre and is close to the main interchange for the M54. The idea is to create a business park on this site, adjacent to several existing office developments, with encouragement being given to further office development and incorporating a five to six acre site for a hotel. Mr Morgan expects the hotel development to materialize "sooner rather than later".

The second zone is close to the motorway on the other side of the town centre and is expected to have a mixed use for offices, warehousing, light industry with the 11 acre section of the area nearest the motorway providing a site for a single occupier.

Area number three in the zone is the 22 acre "campus site" again alongside the motorway which had been taken by Ricoh. It overlooks a lake and has a substantial amount of land surrounding it to provide a good environment with the possibility of more land for expansion being available.

The fourth zone is almost all of the undeveloped land in the Stafford Park industrial area which is on the eastern fringe of the town. Again there is the prospect of a plot, this time of about 30 acres, fronting the motorway for a single company to develop with the rest of the zone providing sites down to two acres for companies proposing buildings in excess of 40,000 sq. ft. The fifth zone, also close to the motorway, forms part of an existing industrial complex and is aimed at the smaller development with divisions of up to one acre sites and small workshop units.

The town's planners have allocated uses with the aim of creating a mix that will be attractive to prospective occupants who can expect to enjoy the normal benefits of an enterprise zone, chiefly exemption from rates on industrial and commercial properties and 100 per cent allowances for corporation and income tax purposes for capital expenditure on industrial and commercial buildings.

The other main advantage, which along with all the other benefits applies for the 10 year life of the zone, is that the bureaucracy and regulations attached to the developments are greatly reduced. No planning permission is required, providing the use falls within the general use designated for the area, and building regulations are greatly simplified.

Initially, the town was designed to take over from Birmingham so the "fishing ground" for new industry was centred mainly in the west Midlands, but with the recession and the change of direction taken by the town the net was widened, and the development corporation went in search of overseas investments. Regular promotional visits are made by senior officials to Europe, Japan and the United States and the number of foreign controlled companies investing in Telford has now risen to around 40 providing more than 2,000 jobs.

The last two major investments announced by the corporation, Hitachi Maxell and Ricoh, have both been Japanese but the town's salesmen are sensitive to the charge that they are neglecting British industry in their search for jobs. They point out that the majority of new factories in the town are British owned and controlled.

Ricoh is the world's largest manufacturer of photocopiers, employing 17,500 people. It will initially manufacture in Telford photo conductors and dry toner for its copiers but the company hopes to be able to manufacture other office equipment if new markets appear and it may also use Telford for research and development. The factory, on about 45 acres, is now being built and Hiroshi Hamada, president of the Ricoh company, said that Telford was chosen because it "is in the heart of industrial England and offers excellent communications. It is also in a delightful environment."

That last comment is not lost on the development corporation which uses the other attractions of the enterprise zone, such as its closeness to the modern town centre, town park and the landscaped environment, as part of the "bait" to industrialists.

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Money man: coin sorting at Chapman Cash Processing

Saving the man hours

SMC Packaging is typical of the small, almost one-man operation started in Telford a few years ago that is now expanding and looking to the opening of the M54 to give its business an extra impetus.

Brian Seymour, who set up the company which sells food packaging and handling equipment, estimates that replacement of the A5 by the motorway will mean a saving of between 45 minutes and an hour each day for each of his drivers. That works out to a saving of at least a man day each week, which to a company like SMC is a considerable improvement in productivity.

SMC produces and markets equipment for abattoirs, butchers and supermarkets, much of it designed by Mr Seymour whose original company, Seymour Packing, was taken over two years ago. Following the takeover, Mr Seymour set up SMC in Shifnal near by with

two other people and now employs 20 with the company's £1.7m turnover set to double in the next year.

A central feature of the company's operation is its new butchery table called the Mille Bloc, which although simple in design is described as revolutionary because it can be turned upside down. Conventional butchers' blocks can only be used on one side, the top, and then have to be discarded.

The company sells in several European countries and the Middle East and is at the moment negotiating with manufacturers in the United States for SMC products to be manufactured under licence. Mr Seymour is already looking around the vacant industrial units for a new location for expansion. "It's not a question of if we are going to expand, but when," he said.

His aim is to build up a complete packaging system for

the food industry and in doing so he insists that wherever possible all materials and components must be British made. He claims that 98 per cent of all his materials are produced in this country and as an extension of his patriotic fervour he insists that his staff dress in the colours of the Union Jack.

Mr Seymour's four mile move from Shifnal to his 13,000 sq ft unit on the Stafford Park industrial estate was eased, he said, by the development corporation allowing him temporary rent concessions as he is building up the business.

"The whole environment, grass verges, landscaping, are designed to improve the business climate and in this area has been very successful. It is an area that's getting a bit of pride now and the M54 is going to make a big difference to the success of the town," Mr Seymour said.



Tractor man: shifting tractor cabs at GKN Sankey

Hitachi, the big name catch

The drive to attract investment from foreign multinationals received a significant boost this year when Hitachi Maxell decided to build its European production headquarters in Telford which will employ upwards of 200 people.

The big name "catch" of Hitachi, which was prepared to spend £20m on its factory on the Apley Castle industrial estate in the north of the town, was seen as vindication of many hours of lobbying Japanese companies and sales visits to that country.

Maxell will be only the second manufacturer of video tapes based in Britain when it starts production early next year, just nine months after the first works were started on the 50 acre site. The 110,000 sq. ft. building will occupy only part of the site and the company has taken a larger area because it hopes to expand production, possibly with new products.

The building will cost under £4m and the bulk of the investment will go into high technology equipment. The company has

started hiring some of the initial 170-strong workforce which will in the first year produce nine million cassettes and it plans to increase production to at least twelve million a year.

Maxell is headed by nine Japanese and the rest of the workforce will be hired locally including senior engineers who are being sent to Japan for training on the company's latest automated production machinery. "We have found no problem at all in hiring people with the right engineering background in Telford," said Ken Kakurai, managing director of Maxell (UK).

The UK arm was set up in Harrow, Middlesex, three years ago when the company decided it would build a European manufacturing plant, but has operated only as a sales organization for imported Maxell tapes. The decision to build in Telford was announced to coincide with a visit to Japan last January by Patrick Jenkins, the then Secretary of State for Industry.

Mr Kakurai said the company had visited several coun-

tries, including West Germany, Belgium and Holland before choosing Britain. Maxell executives toured prospective sites in Northern Ireland, South Wales and the north east, all of which were able to offer investment incentives while at that time Telford had no special financial assistance to use as a bait.

"We came here secretly several times before we finally approached the development corporation," said Mr Kakurai, "and we decided to select this place because even without grants it is worthwhile." He listed the town's attractions, including the new motorway link, a high quality indigenous workforce and the willingness of the development corporation to smooth out initial difficulties.

The corporation is hoping that the Japanese presence in the town will increase and Maxell will be the first manufacturing company to bring to east Shropshire, Japanese methods of management which, according to Mr Kakurai, lay great emphasis on the company's relationship with the community. Telford workers will also be introduced to Maxell's "one class" factory where everyone from the managing director down wears the same overalls and all eat in the same canteen.

A start from scrap

From a scrap reclamation operation to a distribution centre for high precision microscopes and ophthalmic equipment - that is the transition a small factory unit on Telford's Halesfield industrial estate underwent earlier this year.

When the scrap company moved out, leaving behind an inevitably dirty 6,500 square feet of factory, re-design work started on the building, which is typical of the off-the-peg units that Telford Development Corporation builds for rent. The result was a warehousing complex with plush demonstration area for the instrument division of the Japanese Nikon Company.

The instrument division was set up in April after the demise of the Scottish-based Projectina Company which had handled sales of Nikon microscopes and ophthalmic equipment since 1965. The owner of the company retired and the resulting company is staffed by former Projectina personnel.

David Lewis, the division's general manager who was responsible for finding a site for the new distribution operation, said: "I went to about 40 sites before we decided to come to Telford. One of the reasons for choosing Telford was the help given to us by the

development corporation. They made me feel as if I was wanted, as if I was important."

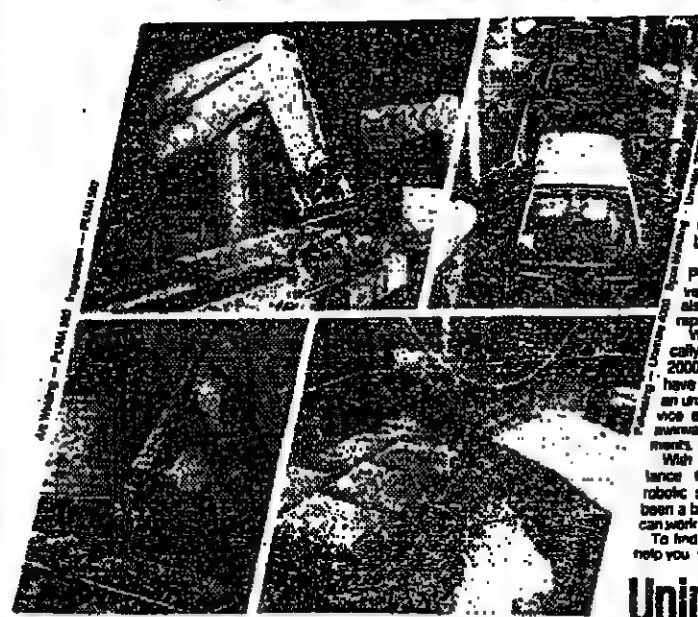
Much of the groundwork for Nikon's final decision to set up in Telford was laid during a Telford promotional visit to Tokyo when development corporation officials met senior Nikon executives who had not heard of the town before their visit. The Telford unit is the base for a team of 11 Nikon salesmen who are on the road selling instruments to hospitals, schools, universities and the micro-electronics industry.

Leader in an £8m market

Mr Lewis said he hopes the present £1.5m annual turnover will increase to £2m which would make the company leader in the relatively small £8m a year market for microscopes. Nikon is also marketing computer-controlled equipment for opticians to use in testing eyesight which should cut the length of a visit to the optician down to a matter of minutes.

The company hopes that with the advantage of the improvement in road links it will show a 30 per cent increase in sales in its first year in Telford.

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Breathing life back into the industrial revolution



Mile after mile of a long lost age

While Telford's industrial salesmen travel the world in search of new industrial development for the town, the Ironbridge Gorge museum trust is engaged in bringing back life to industrial developments made more than 200 years ago.

The museum, which covers more than nine square miles of the southern part of the town along the banks of the river Severn, has become world renowned for its approach to "living history" as it slowly clears away the debris of a more than a century of neglect from important relics of the industrial revolution.

Ironbridge, and the adjacent small town of Coalbrookdale, was the home of the Darby family who set Britain on the move away from being a basically agricultural economy to world leadership as an industrial nation.

The centrepiece of the museum is the iron bridge itself, a magnificent cast iron structure built in 1779 by Abraham Darby III, which was made possible because of the new technique developed by his grandfather, the first Abraham



Darby, who seven years earlier discovered a way of smelting iron using coke rather than the ever-diminishing supplies of charcoal.

Furnaces at Coalbrookdale in which Darby perfected that technique have been restored to their original state and form part of a museum of iron which charts the development of iron founding in the wake of Darby's revolutionary discovery. A long list of industrial "first" followed that innovation including the manu-

facture of the first iron railway wheels, cylinders for Newcomen steam engines, the world's first iron boat and, of course, the ribs for the world's first iron bridge.

A series of diverse industries began to spring up along the banks of the Severn, where it threads its way through the steep-sided Ironbridge Gorge, including boat building, rope making, and china and tile industries.

A description in 1837 of the area at the height of its

influence by local author Charles Hulbert gives an insight into the level of industrial activity. "From Coalport to the Iron Bridge, two miles the river passes through the most extraordinary district in the world. The banks on each side are elevated to the height of from three to 400 feet, studded with iron works, brickworks, boat building establishments, retail stores, inns and houses, perhaps 150 vessels on the river, actively employed or waiting for cargoes, while hundreds of busy mortals are assiduously engaged, melting with the heat of the roaring furnace, and though enveloped in thickest smoke and incessant dust are cheerful and happy", he wrote.

With the Iron Bridge as the focal point, the Ironbridge Gorge museum trust, set out to bring the surrounding area back as near as possible to its original form and the process of recreating working examples of the 1830s industry is to continue for at least the next decade. Recognition of the trust's contribution to protecting the country's industrial heritage came in 1977 when it was named Museum of the Year and in 1978 with the

Preserving the past at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum: Top: dressed for the part for pot-making and the old butcher's shop. Left: industrial architecture of a century ago

Council of Europe's first European Museum of the Year award.

The trust has raised about £2.5m from voluntary contributions and grants to finance its work, but total investment in the museum from all sources including the Telford Development Corporation, local authorities and the Government, runs into tens of millions of pounds. The most important, and also costly, civil engineering project undertaken by the museum was the urgent work needed to prevent the iron bridge slowly slipping down the banks of the Severn.

A concrete beam costing £150,000 was placed along the river bed, to strengthen the abutments and prevent almost certain collapse of the bridge.

The museum has also been responsible for rescuing numerous other industrial monuments and bringing them to the Bliths Hill open air museum, where, on 47 acres perched high on the side of the gorge, a working industrial community is being recreated.

Future developments will now be concentrated on an ambitious project to build an iron works at Bliths Hill that is capable of manufacturing wrought iron goods which the trust believes it can sell commercially for specialist products. It hopes to be in production within three years and a large number of trainees from the Government's youth training scheme are employed on the project.

A third project for the future

is the restoration of two houses in Coalbrookdale which were homes of the Darby family.

All of the administration and restoration work at the Ironbridge Gorge museum is carried out by the museum trust while the capital is raised by the Ironbridge Gorge Development Trust. The work of the development trust is aimed more now at seeking grants from private industry toward the cost of specific projects.

A further problem faces the Ironbridge Gorge, a problem which has been brought about by the success of the area as a tourist attraction. Pressure is growing for a by-pass to be built. Lord Northfield, chairman of the development corporation, says in the corporation's recently completed annual report: "The development of Ironbridge as a major tourist attraction, the home of one of the world's most important museums, has led to increasing traffic problems. The future of Ironbridge as a resort as well as the comfort and safety of its residents and visitors now require nothing less than the earliest possible completion of the by-pass."

Success beckons in a glass house

British Brown-Boveri decided to make a clean break with London which had been its headquarters for 76 years when it last year moved into a prestige office block overlooking the new town centre, a building which had for some time been seen by locals as Telford's "white elephant".

The empty Darby House, with its imposing all-glass cladding, seemed to represent Telford's inability to attract companies to the town, but Brown-Boveri's decision to locate its headquarters in the building soon led to other companies moving into the building which will be the centrepiece of the Telford Business Park.

British Brown-Boveri, the UK offshoot of Swiss-based BBC Brown, Boveri and Co, has been involved in Telford since 1976 when it became the first major power engineering company to establish manufacturing operations in the town. That unit was closed by BBC in 1982 when a wholesale restructuring of the company's operations led to the headquarters move to Telford.

The manufacturing section was taken over by some ex-BBC employees, re-named Centre Switchgear and now works almost exclusively for BBC. About 90 people are employed in the head office, with 75 per cent recruited locally and in addition to being the administrative and financial headquarters Telford is also the home of the power engineering division.

The parent company is one of Europe's largest power engineering groups employing 94,000 people in five countries and with a turnover last year of £2,860m.

Control panels for the Thames barrier, control systems and switchgear equipment for the Dinorwic hydro power station in north Wales, engineering work on the country's largest electric iron melting plant for Ford at Leamington Spa and control systems for conveyor routes in the new Selly coalfield, are some of the projects that have been engineered in Telford.

The company's move into the first office development in the town centre was a morale-booster for the development corporation and the company in turn has a prominent building overlooking the M54 and business park.

RICOH HAS A YEN FOR TELFORD.

The Ricoh Company, the world's largest manufacturer of photo copiers, is making a multi-million pound investment in a new factory in Telford. It will be the first Japanese office-equipment production plant in the UK.

The factory will occupy a 47-acre site, with 86,000 sq. ft. (8,000 sq. m.) allocated for initial manufacturing facilities. Production is due to start in January 1985, with a workforce of 100 to begin with.

"We are coming to Britain to be able to better serve our customers in the European market. We chose Telford because it is the heart of industrial England and offers excellent communications," said Mr Hiroshi Hamada, Ricoh's President, when he announced the investment.

We hope that our investment will bring Ricoh more closely into the community in Britain and we look forward to being able to provide an increasing number of jobs as our success continues to grow.

Our local procurement should also be able to assist the economy and provide additional job opportunities.

RICOH

TECHNOLOGY WITH A HUMAN TOUCH



Three men on the course: golfers beside new housing at Sutton Hill, Telford

The town with a touch of Dallas

Telford has always placed great emphasis on major improvements to the environment linked to providing a wide spread of leisure activities as a necessary adjunct to its house building and industrialization programmes and that policy is now beginning to bear fruit as several new leisure developments are either open or close to opening.

The town centre can now boast a championship-sized tennis centre, an ice rink due to open next autumn and a "disco-pub", all of which are designed to bring life to a new shopping centre after nightfall. The importance attached to leisure by both Telford Development Corporation and the local authority, Wrekin district council, is all the more relevant because of the 21 per cent unemployment rate with youngsters suffering the worst.

In the southern part of the town overlooking the Ironbridge Gorge is a £2m hotel and leisure complex linked to the Great Hay golf course. The Telford hotel, golf and country club provides conference facilities, badminton and squash courts and a swimming pool.

There are four major leisure centres around the new town, most linked to schools but open to the public but the main focus

is increasingly likely to be on the town centre. The tennis centre run by a local business has been designated the West Midlands Tennis Centre by the Lawn Tennis Association which means that national championships can be held there.

The building, which houses eight international standard tennis courts and 10 badminton courts was built by the development corporation and leased back to Mr Peter Lloyd who operates it. On the other hand the ice skating rink will be the development corporation's first venture into a commercial leisure operation.

When completed the rink will be handed over to the Wrekin council for management and it has been designed so that it can be used for large scale entertainments as well as skating. The hope is that the tennis centre and rink will attract people not only from within Telford and as Lord Northfield, chairman of the development corporation puts it, will become a "magnet to people from miles around through its proximity to the motorway in the heart of the town."

But the leisure facilities are just part of the services the development corporation has provided since its inception in

1968. Its proudest achievement is the shopping centre which with almost 700,000 square feet under cover, is one of the biggest shopping malls in Britain.

With a section clad in mirrored glass, matching the facade of the nearby Darby House office block, the town

centre takes on a futuristic "Dallas" look. It has its own bus station and is only a few minutes' walk from the 400 acre town park.

There is free car parking for 3,500 cars and while it provides the centrepiece to the town, the development corporation has made improvements to the

shopping areas of the old town of Wellington, Dawley, Oakengates, Madeley and Ironbridge which now act as satellites to the town centre.

It is a disappointment to all the authorities in Telford that they have been unable to persuade a cinema chain to move into the town. Despite a population of 107,000 there is insufficient interest, according to the cinema operators, and the town's only cinema which had been open for several decades closed earlier this year.

A campaign being waged is for a start to be made on the planned new Telford hospital, which is designed to have 350 beds, four operating theatres, accident unit, X-ray department, and other specialized departments. Building work was due to start this year with completion in 1986 and an opening the following year, but the project has become bogged down in a wrangle over cash.

The Government has agreed to provide the £27m capital cost but the local health authority says that it is not sure it can meet the £9m annual running costs. Pressure is mounting for a quick start on the hospital because it will provide much needed jobs in its construction and is also expected to employ 1,000 permanent staff.



One man and his shop: Keith Stewart, director of Carrefour, Telford's largest store

Chapman's way with money

Chapman Cash Processing has expanded at a remarkable rate since it started business less than three years ago in a small factory on Telford's Stafford Park industrial area. It is success that according to its founder, Colin Chapman, is based entirely on innovation and putting into practice new ideas for handling cash.

In 1980 Mr Chapman started the business with 14 people. He now employs 76 and profits are expected to increase fivefold from last year's £64,000 to £300,000. As an indication of confidence in the company's future £1m is being raised from financial institutions in a private floating of shares to help finance more research and development.

A former Royal Navy officer who served on the first Polaris submarine, Mr Chapman brought to his own business experience in working for one of the biggest cash handling

companies in the country. He used that experience, recruited a team of young graduates and set out to put together cash handling systems that not only counted and packaged money but through computer links provided management with additional information.

An example of such a system is the package Mr Chapman designed for British Telecom which was trying to reduce losses from its public telephone kiosks. Following the introduction of the system in London there has been an increase of 20 per cent in BT's income.

By providing the BT worker who is emptying the telephone boxes with a simple information card to fill in, information on location of the box, the amount of cash collected and the general state of the box and faults can be fed into BT's computers.

Chapman machinery, all designed and built at Telford, is

now being used in a wide range of banks, stores and security companies. A new development the company is now producing is a coin validator that can learn to recognise coins of any size or origin. This piece of equipment is incorporated in coin counters, which can count segregate and sack up to 550 coins a minute.

About a quarter of the young Chapman workforce are shareholders in the company which Mr Chapman believes has led to a spirit within the company of working together as a team. His design team is responsible for spending the 42 per cent of the budget that goes on research and development.

The first Chapman machine was sold to one of the major clearing banks in 1980 and the company is confident of winning a contract to instal a cash processing system in all the outlets of one of the big chain stores after an initial experiment in 50 stores.

Brown Boveri know-how on ozone generators is good enough for the City of Los Angeles, at the new water treatment plant in San Fernando Valley.

Efficient, and safe

Ozone—'super oxygen'—is used in water treatment as a powerful and safe oxidizing agent that deals effectively with germs, viruses, odours, discoloration and other impurities.

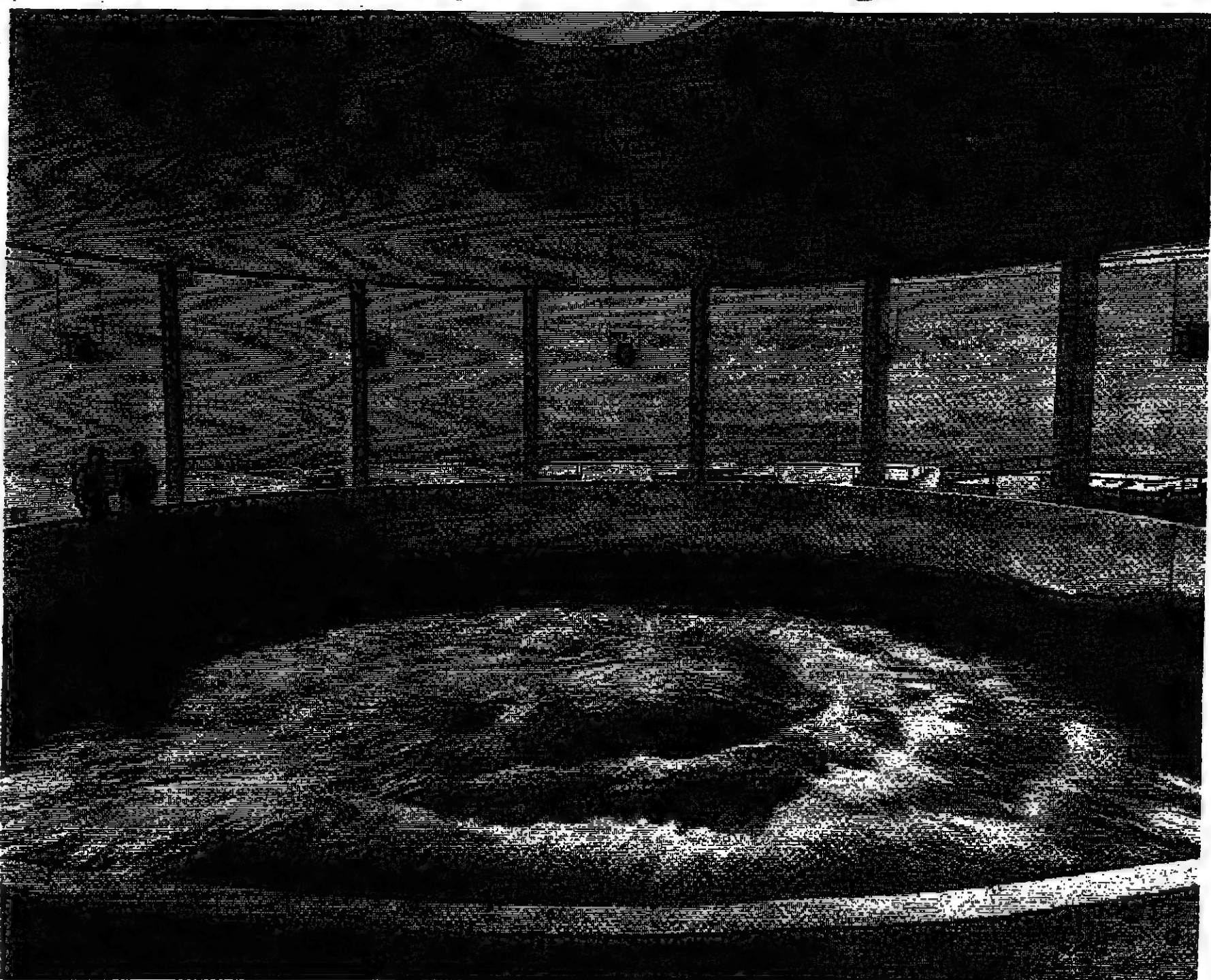
BBC ozone generators were chosen for the new San Fernando Valley treatment plant after a severe evaluation of such factors as ozone concentration, output, efficiency, space requirements, maintenance needs, and price.

The plant's five ozone generators incorporate Brown Boveri electronic control equipment and produce an impressively high ozone concentration of 6%, or 88 g/m³. With pure oxygen as the feedstock, the combined output is 185 kg of ozone per hour.

With the help of Brown Boveri technology the new facility will treat more than 100,000 m³ of surface water per hour. To produce drinking water for the people of Los Angeles which is clear, clean and good.

As well as supplying highly specialized components and control systems to help meet such vital needs as drinking water and effluent treatment, Brown Boveri play a major role in providing the world with facilities for generating, distributing and utilizing electricity. Whether as main contractor, as head of a consortium, consortium member or supplier of equipment, Brown Boveri are there. Accepting the challenge of the different, the complex and the new—every day and everywhere. And with their worldwide resources committed to the attainment of technical excellence in joint enterprise with others, Brown Boveri know how.

Illustration: Spring basin in the Sipplinger Berg waterworks, Lake Constance. BBC ozone generators are used here in treating water from the lake to make it drinkable.



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RUGBY UNION

Inefficiency in defence puts a blight on fruit of creative ability

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Cambridge University ... 20 MR Steele-Bodger's XV 38

The Universities will really have to give up their celebrity games. Last week, against Major Stanley's side, Oxford lost their captain, MacNeill, with a knee injury which still makes his presence at Twickenham on December 6 doubtful. Yesterday at Grange Road, Cambridge watched Andrew, their centre, limp off with only one game left before the University match. He has a "dead" leg, and will probably miss the game with Harlequins on Saturday.

Andrew had already left the field once after a heavy tackle and by the time he went off for good Steele-Bodger's side had ensured victory, largely through the agency of Cardus, the burly Wasp wing. The guest team, it seemed, had only to feed Cardus for a try to materialise. He scored four, helped to make the run which led to the award of a penalty try and left the others to the New Zealanders, Green and Robertson, as Steele-Bodger's team won by five goals and two tries to a goal, two tries and two penalty goals.

Defence is the aspect of Cambridge's game which makes it easier to understand their run of defeats against club sides this term. They have lost none of their bright creative ability; they used the ball well and, just as they have in several games, they took an early lead and held it until after half-time.

It took them a period for Steele-Bodger's XV to come together under the genial leadership of Ripley. The mischievous imp which has always lurked in the former England No 8, persuaded him to call two "funny" penalties, once involving all his side save the scrum half in a large circle. A swift Gregorian Chant and Cullen fed the ball into the circle, where it was involved in a game of pin the parcel before MacNeill broke off and was promptly tackled by Cambridge. Roger Quinton, who had eyed proceedings with interest, then had great delight in awarding the University a penalty.

Bailey opened the scoring with a try in which he deceived Hampel on the outside. Andrew kicked a penalty and when Smith joined his line and chipped through, the ball squirmed away from the cover of Summers got the touch down, Chesworth converting.

Within eight minutes the lead had been reduced to a single point: Cardus supported Robertson, and when Steele-Bodger the younger was enveloped three yards from the line Mr Quinton awarded a penalty try for a high tackle which Smith, the stand off, converted. The Bedford player also added a conversion when

Cardus, playing opposite Bailey, crossed for a try after what looked suspiciously like a forward pass. Chesworth's penalty made the interval score 16-12 to the university.

Bailey scored his second try after a switch to Chesworth, a good work from his locks, but from then on the university's possession began to run dry. Worse still they could make no impression on Cardus, who ran in tries three and four, beating off a variety of would-be tacklers. Ripley sent Green in on the corner, then it was the turn of Cardus again before Robertson, one of several All Blacks of past and present vintage in Cambridge on the day, scored the last try. Smith kicked three more conversions and MacNeill and his Oxford colleagues left Grange Road with revived hope for their December date.

SCORERS: Cambridge University: Try: Bailey (2), Smith, Conversion: Chesworth. Penalties: Andrew, Cardus. M R Steele-Bodger's XV: Tries: Cardus (4), Green, Robertson, penalty try. Conversions: Smith (5).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: S Smith (King Edward VI, Lichfield and Magdalen), M Canning (University College, Southampton), K Sime (West Park GS and Emmanuel), R Andrew (Barnard Castle and St John's), M Bredy (Chesham and Farnham), M Bailey (Ipswich and Corpus Christi), C Chesworth (Greshams and Magdalen), S Roberts (Manchester GS and Christ), R Bailey (Sunderland and Farnham), R Murray (Priory Grange Lichfield and Trinity), G Linn (Stewarts Melville and Trinity Hall), M Morrison (Greshams and Pembroke), W Silliman (Wellington College and Selwyn), C Ewbank (Farnham and St John's), A Harper (Sydney University and Downing), P David (RGS Guildford and Trinity Hall).

M R STEELE-BODGER'S XV: A Hampel (Richmond), C Green (Cambridge and New Zealand), R Robertson (Counties and New Zealand), R Cardus (Waspas and England), G Smith (Bedford), J Cullen (West Park and Gloucester and England), G Steele-Bodger (Rugby), P Enekenovs (London), J MacNeil (London Scottish), W Griffiths (Cardiff), R Scotland, R Wilkinson (Bedford and England), G Rees (Nottingham), A Ripley (Rooseley and England), J Cullen (Bedford and England), R Outterson (London Society).

Cardus scored four tries

A name blackened

Auckland (Reuter) — The All Blacks manager, Paul Mitchell rejected the accusations that the New Zealand team were guilty of foul play on their British tour when they arrived home yesterday.

The All Blacks were in-0 by England at Twickenham on Saturday at the end of a disappointing tour in which they were also held 2-5 by Scotland in their only other international match.

The match against England was hard fought and there was some criticism of the All Blacks' methods. A tackle by the winger, Bernie Fraser on John Carleton which resulted in the England player leaving the field, was singled out for comment.

The New Zealand coach, Bryce Roper said he was surprised by the reports of violent play in-0 by the Twickenham match, and said New Zealanders, who watched the match live on television, could judge the validity of the claims for themselves.

Stuart Wilson, the captain of the touring team, said he had not enjoyed the tour as much as previous visits to Britain. He added: "It was a happy tour and I enjoyed every minute of it."

Wilson said the team's failures were mainly the result of the loss of the five tight forwards who played the result of the loss of the five tight forwards who played in the four previous matches. He said his absence had not been overcome. He said the improvement of forward and scrum-half play in British rugby had impressed him, but the standard of back play continued to be unimpaired.

SYDNEY, (AFP) — The promoter, David Lord looks likely to gain permission to stage his proposed professional World Championship Rugby (WCR) matches at the Sydney Cricket Ground and at Brisbane's Lang Park next April and May, according to "informed sources" here.

Professional rugby is scheduled to begin in England in January 1984, with other matches to be played in Wales, Scotland, Ireland and France over a four-week period, but there is growing belief in Europe that his ambitious project will not get off the ground.

MOTOR RALLYING



Blomqvist, the eventual winner, prepares to start out on the final day (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Blomqvist finishes out on his own

Stig Blomqvist, driving a British-prepared Audi Quattro, had almost 10 minutes to spare when winning the Lombard RAC Rally, which finished in Bath yesterday. Hannu Mikkola, his Audi team-mate and the new world champion finished second. Blomqvist took control on Saturday and, emphasising his superiority over Mikkola by being fastest in 36 of the 57 stages.

It was the perfect reward for Blomqvist, the British open champion, who has been forced to play second fiddle in the Audi team this year to help Mikkola towards his first world title. Blomqvist took full advantage when Mikkola crashed on Sunday and then never allowed the Finn a glimmer of hope, eventually winning by 9 min and 53 sec. It was a second win in the RAC for Blomqvist, his previous success coming 12 years ago. Mikkola has now won second three times and four times.

RESULTS: 1. Stig Blomqvist (Swed), Audi Quattro, 5:20:22. 2. H Mikkola (Fin), Audi Quattro, 5:30:21. 3. J MacNeil (GB), Opel Manta, 5:31:16. 4. Lemp (Fin), Audi Quattro, 5:31:57. 5. S Brocken (GB), Ford Escort, 5:32:11. 6. J Ruffin (USA), Audi Quattro, 5:32:17. 7. J MacNeil (Fin), Toyota Celica, 5:32:21. 8. J MacNeil (Fin), Toyota Celica, 5:32:21. 9. J MacNeil (Fin), Toyota Celica, 5:32:21. 10. J MacNeil (Fin), Toyota Celica, 5:32:21.

TENNIS

Dutch girl silences the crowd and opponent

At the halfway stage of the third week of the LTA's month-long indoor international satellite tour, several of the players are beginning to look a little irritable and jaded.

The Dutch girl, who was only allowed to play the point, but from that moment the crowd made no secret of whose side they were on and soon pulled Miss Pennington through the first set. Those who last week saw Miss Warrington hand her semi-final match to Carol Daniels, of the United States, on the provincial plain, felt that the second set might well be 6-0 for Miss Pennington.

As it turned out, though, Miss Warrington controlled herself well enough to win it 6-4. The decider was one-sided, but there was trouble 6-4, 6-1 and two visits from the tournament referee, Georgina Clark.

The first time Mrs Clark was called to the court was when Miss Warrington caught a ball which, in the opinion of all those standing on the balcony above, was unmistakably on the line. As Miss Pennington stood patiently at the net, asking her opponent to give it another thought, Miss Warrington took not one whiff of notice and simply set herself up to serve again.

Miss Hobbs upsets seed

Sydney (Reuter) — Anne Hobbs, of Britain, produced one of the best performances in the New South Wales women's open championships yesterday with a comfortable triumph over the No 9 seed, Claudia Kohde, of West Germany, while leading British player, Brenda Fernandez, aged 19, a professional for only 10 days.

Miss Hobbs, often infuriatingly inconsistent, found her best form to win 6-4, 7-5, and then admitted: "I didn't surprise myself. I always believe I have the ability to beat players of her class." Four seeds were thus dismissed from the tournament in 24 hours.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Phelps in footsteps of his uncle

Richard Phelps, who came close to a medal in the last modern pentathlon world championships, has gained early selection for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles next year. Phelps, aged 22, follows in the footsteps of his uncle and coach, who was a member of the British team in all the Olympics and world championships from 1924-1974.

Hormone drug is legal

Los Angeles (AP) — Somatropin, a human growth hormone used by athletes to increase their strength, will be legal at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. Athletes will not even be tested for the drug, which has been investigated by the drug for six months, since well before reports of its use surfaced at the world athletics championships last summer in Helsinki.

Wincanton

Wincanton selections

Wincanton selections

Wincanton selections

RACING: FIGURES DOUBLED AT NEWMARKET SALES

Winter to warm up with a double

By Michael Seely

John Francome, who is 12 winters behind John O'Neill in the race for the jockey's title, is going to make a bold effort to reduce the gap in the near future. At Newbury on Saturday the reigning champion and Brown Chamberlin will be attempting to credit both the jockey and Fred Winter with their first success in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup. At Wincanton this afternoon the most formidable partnership in the jumping game can land a double by winning the Filtrams Handicap Hurdle with Arcus and the Lord Stalbridge Memorial Cup with Plundering.

In the London offices yesterday all the Hennessy money was predictably for Everett and Midnight Love, whose prices have shortened to 7-2 and 4-1 respectively with most firms. The longest odds on offer against Brown Chamberlin is the 13-2 with Mecca.

After his five wins from six starts as a novice, including an impressive victory in the Sun Alliance Chase, Brown Chamberlin was considered to be a leading contender for last season's Cheltenham Gold Cup. However, after winning two of his first three races in the autumn, this handsome chaser

fell from grace and his season ended in disaster at the National Hunt Festival when he was pulled up behind Bregawn in the Gold Cup after making too many mistakes.

Brown Chamberlin has taken on a new lease of life this season and his confidence appears to be restored after two easy victories at Wincanton and Cheltenham. Significantly he was ridden up with the pace on both occasions and seemed to enjoy himself at the head of affairs.

Conceivably Brown Chamberlin is going to take some beating on Saturday now that he is on a more reasonable mark in the handicap and racing on ground that he likes. "We overrated him", Winter said yesterday. "And that included myself as well as the public and the jockey."

Like all his colleagues the seven-times champion trainer is frustrated by the continuing drought as he sits and suffers with his usual strong team of potential talent. "You can't risk them in these conditions. It's simply not worth it. If you get it wrong, the horse is out for the season at least. I have not been able to school outside for a month. And it's not safe to gallop on the grass. All the last

work is taking place on wood shavings."

Arcus and Plundering have both shown their liking for the firm going and Winter has no option but to try to strike again while the iron is hot. Arcus collected a 4lb penalty when felling a gamble on Almighty Zeus at Ascot last Friday. He may have been slightly flattered by this result as Francome outwitted his fellow jockeys, but Arcus may still be good enough to concede the weight to Lucky George and Droghda.

Plundering, on the other hand, appears to face an easier task in the handicap chase. This improving young horse beat Bashful Lad in fine style at Wolverhampton and is a firm choice to beat Koga Way and David Nicholson's Sandown winner, Lucky Call.

If the go-ahead is given at Haydock racegoers can start the afternoon on a good note by watching Wayward Lad beat Snowtown Boy and Fortina's Express in the Edward Hamner Memorial Chase, which was carried forward from yesterday and is being run at 12.30. The best bet on the Lancashire course could well be Kudos in the St Helens Handicap Chase.



Fred Winter: overrated Brown Chamberlin

Finally it is still not certain who will ride Midnight Love on Saturday. Michael Dickinson has said that of Marnah, is withdrawn, Robert Earnshaw will take the mount on Ashley House, leaving Graham Bradley free for Midnight Love. However, Denys Smith said yesterday: "I want to know Graham's decision by Thursday night at the latest, or I'll have to find another jockey. Otherwise it's not fair on the owners."

Salieri's half brother makes top price

By Simon O'Loughlin

A half-brother to the high-class sprinter Salieri was the highest-priced yearling at 96,000 guineas on the opening day of the Newmarket December Sales yesterday. The bay or brown colt, who was submitted by Jim and Brenda Squires' Hubbard Lodge Stud in Leicester, was bought by the Newmarket agent, Jeremy Hindley, on behalf of an oil businessman from the United Arab Emirates, whose first racehorse this is. The underbidder was Cormac McCormack, the agent, who was outbid by the same stallion, Devan, whose most notable performer in this country was Khalid Abdullah's fast juvenile Aber. The colt's dam, the unraced

Hogan's Sister, is a half-sister to Father Hogan, also by Devan, who won eight races and \$310,460 in the United States. Salieri won the Mill Reef Stakes last year, and the 1980 Epsom Stakes and Diadem Stakes in 1983.

Trade yesterday was slowed by the withdrawal of a third of the lots but the 85 yearlings sold aggregated 971,900 guineas — more than double last year's corresponding figure of 479,000 guineas when 68 yearlings changed hands. Yesterday's average of 11,434 guineas was 62 per cent up on the 7,043 guineas average achieved in 1982.

An American stud owner, Robert Entenmann, who sold the broodmare, Habitude, in foal to Nijinsky, for \$1,850,000 at Keeneland last

week, reinvested 75,000 guineas yesterday for a colt from the first crop of the 1979 Champion Stakes winner, Northern Baby. This chestnut half-brother to the Irish 1,000 Guineas winner, Mornay, looked sure to attract a high price, but there seemed little interest in him until Entenmann stepped in.

Another 75,000 guineas purchase was Stephen Stud's bay Riverman colt, who was bought by the agent, Frank Barry, Barry was acting for a syndicate of three, which includes a fellow Bloodstock agent, Michael O'Sullivan, and may be sent to the Irish trainer, Mick O'Donnell. The colt's dam, Marchpane, is a winning ova-sister to Ile de Flore, who won twice in group races in Italy.

The only other Riverman yearling to be offered in Europe this year is the colt at the centre of the disappearing bidder controversy at the Highflyer Sales. That colt is now the subject of a High Court action over who stands the £250,000 loss incurred when he was re-offered.

Tender King, winner of the 1981 Richmond Stakes, and placed in both the English and Irish 2,000 Guineas, has been retired to the Fawley Stud at Wantage, in Oxfordshire. He will stand at a fee of £2,000, live foal.

The four-year-old son of Prince Tenderfoot was a high-class miler in the hands of John Sutcliffe, but after being sent to race in the United States this year, did not run because of injury.

Haydock Park

Total 1.30, 2.30, 3.30, 4.30, 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30

1.30 WAYWARD LAD (2m), (Mrs S Thewlis), M. W. Dickinson 6-11-3

2.30 GARDWICK HURDLE (handicap) (Novices: £1,236: 2m) (7)

3.30 RAINFORD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (handicap: £958: 2m) (8)

4.30 VAUX BREWERIES CHASE (Novices: £1,913: 3m) (6)

5.30 NORTHERN HURDLE (3-y-c: £1,716: 2m) (4) (7)

6.30 CHARD CHASE (handicap: £1,685: 2m) (8)

7.30 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £546: 2m) (9 runners)

8.30 FILTRAMS HURDLE (handicap: £2,796: 2m) (6) (9)

9.30 CERNE ABBAS CHASE (novices: £1,573: 2m) (5) (8)

10.30 LORD STALBRIDGE CHASE (handicap: £2,523: 3m) (1) (5)

11.30 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £546: 2m) (15)

12.30 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £546: 2m) (15)

13.30 YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div 1: novices: £546: 2m) (15)

Blows and after the

lancini to quit the ring next year

Money ta

A new

Haydock selections

By Michael Seely

1.30 Wayward Lad. 1.0 Repington. 1.30 Grand Harmony. 2.0 All The Queens Men. 2.30 Kudos. 3.0 Harford. 3.30 Mr McCann.

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13 pts £4,299.40

12 pts £4,299.40

11 pts £4,299.40

10 pts £4,299.40

9 pts £4,299.40

8 pts £4,299.40

7 pts £4,299.40

6 pts £4,299.40

5 pts £4,299.40

4 pts £4,299.40

3 pts £4,299.40

2 pts £4,299.40

1 pt £4,299.40

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General Appointments

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

Double-glazing with a rose tint

Someone should commission a survey of readers of *The Times* to find out which careers they would like to follow. Apart from its sociological interest it would also, perhaps, help industry to pinpoint some of the social taboos which cling to certain jobs. For example, there is little doubt that selling double-glazing would feature prominently in this Top Ten of bottom jobs.

The reputable members of the double-glazing industry recent being classified among the social untouchables. The telephone canvassers who ring at 10 pm and the hard-sell, foot-in-the-door cowboys are, they say, only the unrepresentative segment of a big industry. Indeed, after the boom in interest in double-glazing induced by the energy crisis of the 1970s the industry has now settled down. What is now required, it is claimed, are steady reliable members of the middle-class to come into double-glazing and improve its credentials.

Times readers for example, would make excellent reps for some of the firms at the top end of the market. This may not be too far-fetched. For certain kinds of people - self-starters, well organized, with an easy social manner - selling double-glazing can offer the satisfaction of earning a reasonable income while being free of overbearing supervision. For some middle-ranking executives who have found themselves at the wrong end of

Responsible salesmen are wanted to give a new image to the industry, writes Edward Fennell

a management shake-out this kind of selling could offer a way back into running their own show and exercising their initiative and energy. "We are short of the right calibre field sales staff," says Cameron Robertson, the marketing director of Zenith Windows, part of the Bowater Group. Many suitable candidates steer clear of the job because of its tarnished image. So firms like Zenith, while recruiting only exceptionally come up with the right sort of person. "It is just over 10 per cent who get through our selection procedure," says Robertson. "We are going to invest quite a lot of money in their training before they go out on the road, so we need to make sure that we are backing the right people. As it is, and despite the rigorous selection, only seven out of ten make it through the training course."

It is reckoned that competent double-glazing sales staff working for good firms earn about £14,000 a year. So, for people looking for a new direction there is a clear appeal to the work so long as you use your discretion. Being circumspect about who to work for probably means:

● Excluding firms which are too keen, too quick to take you on (if they are casual about selecting their staff they will probably be casual about everything else).

● Checking out the training which is provided - if it is only a couple of days it is not likely to be very good - a week or more should be the minimum.

● Discovering the arrangements for displaying products - ideally they should have a showroom open to the public.

● Finding out what kind of sales support you will have - if it is purely "cold canvassing" then be careful; it is much better to follow up replies to advertisements passed on from head office or enquiries to the showroom.

● What exactly is the management structure? Will you sink or swim on your own or will there be advice and help from management?

If you follow these guidelines and have the right kind of personality then it could be a good break. Ex-RAF and Army officers, for example, are claimed to be particularly adept. Maybe it is a sign that the British public still knows a gentleman when it sees one.

Training for youth work

Youth clubs are now taking on a more important role, at a time when many young people's needs are not being met, either in schools or with jobs. Some of these clubs are stepping in with lessons in reading, writing, and training for job interviews, and some are staying open throughout the day to give unemployed youngsters somewhere to spend their time.

"This started because we found young people standing outside the clubs when they were closed," said Reggie Davis, London administrative officer of the National Association of Youth Clubs, "so we felt we had to open the doors and let them in to have somewhere to go."

There is also a dramatic increase in membership of under-14s, who now make up a third of the near-million national membership, and this has created problems because juniors (who can be anything down to five years old) require very different handling to seniors - and workers have not been geared to this in the past.

So the organizations which provide training are anxious to recruit and are now taking applications for September 1984 for 200 to 250 places on certificate courses.

A two-year full-time initial training course, for those aged 21 to 40 (average age 29) is offered at 12 different colleges in England and Wales. These include Goldsmiths in London, Manchester and Leicester Polytechnics and the North-East Wales Institute at Wrexham. Courses

Would-be trainees should get in their applications, says Elisabeth Baker

are endorsed by the Council for Education and Training in Youth and Community Work, but the Youth Work Training Agencies Staff Group (YWTASG) coordinates the work of these institutions. Some of the training agencies ask for five O-levels, and some do not - but all prefer those with previous voluntary or part-time experience in youth work.

Grants are at the local authorities' discretion, but "most authorities are sympathetic towards giving grants for youth training," says Don Cribb, director of the Council for Education and Training in Youth and Community Work, "although there may be pressure to attend a college near home".

Many of the institutes which offer initial training also offer "in-service" training, for those with a qualification and some experience. For example a two-year graduate Diploma in Community Education is run at Leicester Polytechnic one day a week by Terry Brown, chairman of the YWTASG. Subjects include sociology, psychology, management, social policy, administration and "working with people skills".

In addition, there are five colleges offering Bachelor of Education degrees, a new four-year sandwich degree course at Brunel University,

and "distance learning" courses at the YMCA and North-east London Polytechnic. Forty-five per cent of the 500 to 600 new recruits are likely to be qualified teachers at present, but this will change in December 1983, as the training authorities would prefer, it seems, to give automatic eligibility to those with special training such as a certificate, diploma, or BEd in youth work.

It seems clear that this is an important and constructive field where workers find themselves able to help solve the difficulties and the bitterness sometimes felt by the young in these recessionary times. However, training authorities are anxious to emphasize that keeping kids off the street is not their basic aim. The 1982 Thompson report on the Youth Service in England defines that aim as providing "programmes of personal development - comprising... social and political education". Nevertheless, the youth service is clearly trying to provide a sensitive response to the needs of youngsters and, with 1983 designated as International Year of Youth, the National Association of Youth Clubs says it is planning to do everything it can to bring the situation of young people to public attention, in the hope that it will help improve the quality of young lives.

Enquiries to the Council for Education and Training in Youth and Community Work, Wellington House, Wellington Street, Leicester LE1 6EL (Tel: 0533 555666).

2 INVESTMENT ANALYSTS EUROPE AND FAR EAST

Established Investment Institution in the City requires two Analysts, one for European Portfolio and one for Singapore and Hong Kong Portfolio, with relevant knowledge and experience.

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Salary £20,000 per annum (index-linked). For a detailed job specification and application forms send a large fee to the Personnel Department, Amnesty International, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ or ring 01-853 1771 ext 5144 or 5147. Please state clearly for which post you wish to apply.

Closing date for the shortlist for completed application forms: 31 December 1983.

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Circa £20,000 p.a. + 2 litre car

Maccoss Limited (part of the Bunnah Retailing & Distribution Division) is the leading Automotive Wholesale Cash and Carry supplying independent retailers. Stock, a developing subsidiary, supplies Home Improvement, Housewares and Garden products, again to the independent trade.

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If so please send written applications photo and CV to: Elizabeth Oswald, MAXVEL TOURS, 25 New Cavendish Street, London, W1

PRIVATE MEMBERS CLUB MANAGER

Required for our private members club in SW London opening before Christmas. The style and facilities will be similar to the West End clubs. The successful applicant must have had experience in this type of club and the ability to handle a wide range of enquiries. This is a full time position with a salary of £12,000 per annum. The club is a private members club and the successful applicant will be responsible for the running of the club, including the management of the staff, the maintenance of the facilities, and the provision of a high standard of service to the members. All applications to be submitted to the Managing Director, 30 Grosvenor Gardens, London, W1K 3GU.

Phone 769 1861

The Manager, 3 Rydal Road, Streatham, SW16

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CHAMBERS. Chartered Accountant looking for a Sec PA to assist with the day to day running of the firm. The successful applicant must have had experience in this type of work and the ability to handle a wide range of enquiries. This is a full time position with a salary of £12,000 per annum. The club is a private members club and the successful applicant will be responsible for the running of the club, including the management of the staff, the maintenance of the facilities, and the provision of a high standard of service to the members. All applications to be submitted to the Managing Director, 30 Grosvenor Gardens, London, W1K 3GU.

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Sphere is seeking to appoint a Publicity Director to take overall responsibility for the promotion of the company, its imprints, books and authors through public relations activity, sales promotion and consumer and trade advertising. Based in our Head Office in Holborn, the successful candidate will be expected to formulate corporate and product promotional strategy and to oversee the implementation of creative and effective promotions for a varied and interesting product range.

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Carboly (Wear Parts Division) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the General Electric Company of America. The division machines precision components in tungsten carbide for a wide range of industrial applications. The management style of the company is one of unit autonomy and the successful candidate will be capable of running a total business unit comprising the manufacturing, selling, commercial and technical functions. You will be a professional manager with a technical and commercial awareness that will enable you to run a business with flair and with a heavy emphasis on the bottom line. Experience of the carbide wear parts business is preferable but not essential. Preferred age range is mid thirties - mid forties. You will report to the General Manager (Carboly Europe).

Please write summarizing your career to date to: E. Inglede, Group Personnel Manager, CARBOLOY LIMITED, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK45 4SP.



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The British Library was established in 1973 to provide the best possible central library and information service for the United Kingdom. It has become one of the world's foremost centres for reference, study, and bibliography and other information services, and also carries out and sponsors research. Its comprehensive collections of books, manuscripts, periodicals, sound recordings and other material are housed in several buildings in London and one in Boston Spa, Yorkshire.

Dr Henry Brokenshaw, Chief Executive and Deputy Chairman of the British Library Board, is to retire on 1 September 1984 and a man or woman of outstanding ability is sought to succeed him. The successful candidate will be selected well before that date and it is hoped to make arrangements which will allow the person appointed to gain some familiarity with the wide-ranging duties of the post, which include day-to-day management, financial control, and the formulation and development of policies.

Candidates, preferably aged under 55, must demonstrate proven managerial competence of a high order. They will be expected to have had substantial administrative responsibility at a senior level in a public, academic, commercial or industrial organisation. Experience in librarianship or information science could be an advantage. Salary: £34,250 from January 1984.

The appointment will be for a fixed period of 2-7 years and may be renewed. It is based in London.

For further details and an application form, to be returned by 14 December 1983) write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencore Link, Basingstoke, Hants. RG21 1BS, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: C/083/L.

"Translations Controller"

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For application form ring: Mrs Stella Huntley on:

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Smoking 'killing' more than 100,000'

continued from page 1

prevent what has been called 'the avoidable holocaust'. Sadly, this has been far from the case."

Senior members of the college said yesterday that they would be seeking meetings with Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer to press for legislative changes.

But one of the report's contributors, Dr Charles Fletcher, emeritus professor of clinical epidemiology at London University, said: "Politicians are not in the least interested in health, except their own health. Banning cigarettes is not going to win them an election, but it will hurt their relations with manufacturers who give them a lot of funds."

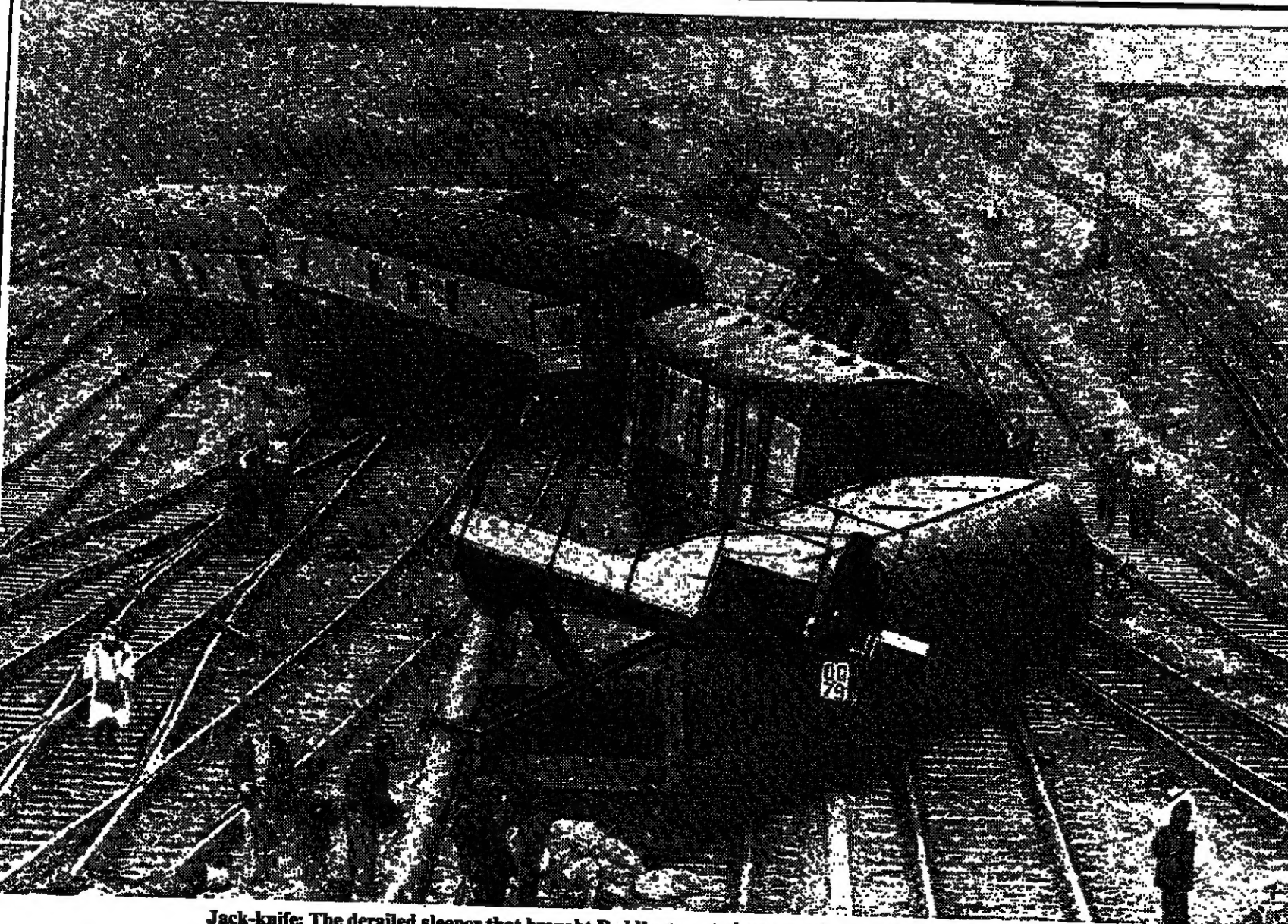
The report complains that the tobacco industry spends £100m a year in advertising 10 times more than the Health Education Council's budget. The health service spent an estimated £155m in 1981 in treating smoking-related diseases.

Mr John Patten the Minister for Health, said in response to yesterday's report: "I believe that within the restraint of a free society, the policies the Government has adopted are proving generally effective," he said. "Cigarette sales have declined 20 per cent in the last four years."

The Royal College of Physicians' first report, published in 1962, was the first authoritative report in Britain to link smoking with lung cancer. Its second report, in 1971, identified other diseases associated with smoking.

The 1977 report recommended education programmes discouraging children from smoking; limiting smoking within the health service; restricting smoking in public places; phasing out tobacco sales promotion; differential price rises discriminating against high tar/nicotine cigarettes; early withdrawal of such cigarettes; and a large increase in research.

Later yesterday, Mr Patten met a delegation from the Freedom of Information Society (FoI), which urged him "to defend smokers' rights". The Tobacco Advisory Council rejected the college's recommendations for further restrictions on the industry. "The RCP ignores both the resulting long-term decline in government revenue from tobacco and the potential impact on employment for over 200,000 people," it said.



Jack-knife: The derailed sleeper that brought Paddington station to a halt (Photograph: John Voos).

Eleven coaches derailed in Paddington sleeper crash

By David Nicholson-Lord

Seventy people escaped without serious injury when an Inter-City sleeper train crashed off the rails as it approached Paddington station, London, yesterday, derailling 11 coaches and leaving a trail of damage.

Only three passengers, one of them a pregnant woman, Mrs Catherine Beaumont, aged 28, were slightly hurt in the crash, which smashed signal installations and part of a platform, cut a signalling cable and left coaches strewn over a wide stretch of track.

A Department of Transport inquiry is to be held in addition to British Rail's internal investigation. One of the first things to be investigated is the suggestion that the train may have been travelling too fast when it left the rails.

But tonight a BR spokesman at Paddington said: "I wouldn't like to speculate. There is a lot of evidence to be collated and much to be gone into. A lot of individuals have to be spoken to."

BR area manager Mr Richard Morris said: "I do not think it was caused by the frost on the rails, but it would be irresponsible to speculate at this stage."

BR said it was fortunate that no one was killed or severely injured, and praised the performance of its new "buck-eye" coupling system which kept most of the carriages linked together. With the old screw coupling, more would probably have fallen over.

The station was closed all yesterday, severely disrupting commuters' journeys, and was

not likely to reopen before this morning, BR said last night. Commuters on the Oxford and Reading lines were being advised to travel via Westbourne Park and Inter-City passengers to use Ealing Broadway. Paddington's main signalling cable was severed in the accident.

The train involved was the Riviera sleeper from Penzance which was derailed at 6.15am. Passengers, many of whom were still in bed when the crash occurred, were helped out by station staff. The driver was lifted out of his cab but was unhurt.

Heavy duty cranes were brought in later to lift the stock but engineers feared difficulties with the locomotive because it was lying under a bridge.

Nato tries to maintain disarmament talks

Continued from page 1

"present round" as a hopeful sign.

One of the key questions now is what future there is for the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Sart) also being held in Geneva. The next session of negotiations is planned for next Tuesday. Moscow indicated last night, however, that the Sart talks may be in danger of collapse. The situation has become "complicated" by the INF breakdown.

In his statement to the Commons Mr Luce said: "The Russians may seek to justify their interruption of the talks by the final preparations for initial Western INF deployment. But the House will recall that the West has remained at the conference table while the Soviet Union has increased its own deployments of SS20s by over 40 per cent."

Conservatives chided the Opposition for not condemning the Russian action and finally Mr Denis Healey said that the exchanges in the House showed that all MPs deplored the Soviet withdrawal. But he said the NATO decision to deploy cruise and Pershing had "done more to damage public support for the NATO alliance than any other action taken in the last 34 years."

The Soviet walkout was caused by a grave error of judgment by NATO ministers. Mrs Joan Ruddock, the leader of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament said last night and she gave warning that it could bring nuclear war closer.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Pershing in Germany and NATO assessment, page 5

Leading article, page 13

Frank Johnson in the Commons Facing up to Britain's long-range hooligans

Mr Richard Luce, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, made a statement about the Soviet withdrawal from the Geneva talks on limiting intermediate nuclear forces.

Labour members emphasized the threat to the talks of the deployment of the American cruise and Pershing. Conservative members emphasized the threat to Western Europe of the SS20s.

It was one of those days when the issues involved were so vast - the self-confidence and expertise shown by certain members on both sides so patently bogus - that one cast around for a subject where right and wrong were as with the Second World War. For example, was stark and clear. Happily there are such issues. Thus, at question time to the Minister for Sport there was widespread unity on the threat to Western Europe posed by the British long-range weapons: the football hooligans.

Members pondered the lessons of the recent use of the weapons against Luxembourg. According to eye witnesses, very little of Luxembourg was now left. The cataclysm tended to vindicate those of us who believe that war can only be avoided by countries possessing the weapons to deter an aggressor - in effect, by a balance of terror. For could it really be doubted that Britain would have gone ahead and destroyed much of Luxembourg last week had Luxembourg possessed comparable soccer hooligans of its own?

The lessons for the world were salutary. In its hour of trial, Luxembourg simply turned out not to be a serious hooligan power. It was equipped with some hooligans. But they turned out to lack the weight, technical resources, numbers and sheer fire power of the British. In the last analysis, Luxembourg relied for its defence on conventional policemen. Over the years of the growing British threat, Luxembourg's statesmen appeared to have developed a Maginot mentality, a feeling that all they needed to do was stay in Luxembourg and they were safe from a British football crowd. For over a decade, Luxembourg police strategists had scoffed at the idea that the British could mount a surprise thrust through the low countries. But that was precisely what happened last week - with results we all now know. This was the

background against which members met at sports questions yesterday.

Mr Colin Moynihan, the Conservative member for Lewisham East, demanded of the Minister, Mr Neil MacFarlane, that there should be "tougher sentencing by the courts." The idea that a crack British hooligan would be deterred by a Luxembourg police court was, of course, laughable.

Mr Moynihan suggested that Mr MacFarlane "draw the attention of the Sports Council to the European initiative agreed at a conference in Rotterdam last week." Faith in "European initiatives" is a characteristic of naive idealists such as Mr Moynihan. We admired his sincerity, but doubted his judgment.

Next he urged Mr MacFarlane to "draw the distinction between football supporters and hooligans who have no interest in the sport," thus ignoring the problem of the thousands of Britons who have an interest in the sport and in hooliganism.

Mr MacFarlane, like Churchill wisely not relying on the League of Nations when Germany's hooligans were the problem, clearly knew that the Sports Council was powerless to deal with the sort of threat to European peace now posed by Britain.

Mr Michael McGuire, the Labour member for Macclesfield, urged Mr MacFarlane to "encourage people to change to the game of Rugby Union," ignoring the likelihood that Britain would then simply develop a new generation of long-range hooligans who would attack New Zealand. Mr McGuire claimed that Rugby Union was a game in which the players "lay into one another instead of the spectators laying into one another." He added that if people could be encouraged to change to watching Rugby Union, they may eventually "move to the more noble game of Rugby League."

There may well be merit in what the Hon Member says, but I think it is a route fraught with risks as far as I am concerned," he replied. "It is a matter for the governing bodies," he added, by which one assumed that he was wisely not including among these governing bodies, for these purposes, the Government.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

From Middle England, A History of the 1930s and 1940s, by Philip Oakes (Penguin, £3.95)

Marine Thesaurus, by Edward Crankshaw (Constable, £5.95)

Shedding Writing, Miscellaneous Pieces 1958-1982, by Philip Larkin (Faber, £4.95)

The Unfinished Revolution, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, compiled by Richard Lancelyn Green (Penguin, £2.50)

Vicky, Princess Royal of England and German Princess, by Daphne Bennett Windolante: The Last Writing-Tablets, by A. K. Bowman and J. D. Thomas (Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, £15.50)

Where the Indus is Young, A Winter in Belaitan, by Daria Murphy (Century, £4.95)

Young Gladstone, by John Wain (Black Swan, £1.95)

Voyage of the Destiny, by Robert Nye (Penguin, £2.50)

The End of the World News, by Anthony Burgess (Penguin, £2.95)

Train disruption

Paddington station in London, which was closed yesterday because of the Inter-City derailment, was not likely to reopen before this morning, BR said last night. Commuters on the Oxford and Reading lines were being advised to travel via Westbourne Park and Inter-City passengers should use Ealing Broadway.

National Day

Zaire's National Day today marks the anniversary of the Mobutu Sese Seko, a coup on November 24-25, 1965. Formerly the Belgian Congo, Zaire became independent as the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 1960. The subsequent disorder centred on the attempted secession of Katanga province, which led to the stationing of United Nations troops.

General Mobutu, who had taken temporary power in 1960, decided on November 24, 1965, that he should again take over, and the swift army coup was endorsed by the Congolese Parliament 24 hours later. In October, 1971, the name changed to the Republic of Zaire.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on motion to approve Chancellor of the Exchequer's Autumn Statement.

Lords (3): Debate on shipping industry. Motions on milk regulations.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.66	1.58
Austria Sch	29.65	27.50
Belgium Fr	84.25	80.25
Canada \$	1.88	1.81
Denmark Kr	14.82	14.12
France Fr	355.00	342.00
Germany DM	4.10	3.91
Greece Dr	160.00	152.00
Hong Kong \$	11.75	11.15
India Rupee	13.2	12.7
Italy Lira	2480.00	2370.00
Japan Yen	353.00	342.00
Netherlands Gld	11.46	10.86
Norway Kr	202.00	192.00
Portugal Esc	1.78	1.65
Spain Ptas	235.00	226.00
Sweden Kr	13.12	11.55
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.16
USA \$	1.51	1.46
Yugoslavia Dnr	220.00	207.00

Rates for small denominated bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 340.7

London: The FT Index closed down 1.3 at 724.4.

Weather forecast

Troughs of low pressure will move across all areas from SW.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central N England, E Midlands: Dry at first, rain spreading quickly from W; dry, bright or clear intervals later; wind SE, becoming SW, moderate; max 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

East Anglia, E England: Dry at first, rain later; wind SE, light to moderate; max 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

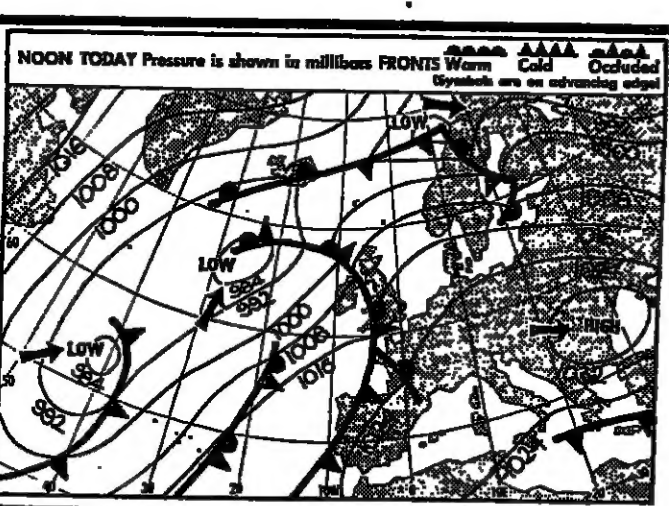
Central S, SW England, W Midlands, Channel Islands, Wales: Rain clearing, sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind SE, becoming SW, moderate or fresh; max 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Rain clearing, sunny intervals; showers, frequent and heavy over high ground; wind SE, becoming SW, fresh or strong; max 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Central Highlands, NW North Bairs to Grampians, Co Durham, AI: Roadworks at Wansbeck viaduct, Morpeth bypass. M18: Lanes closed between junctions 2 and 5.

Wales: A47: Lane closed on North Bairs to Grampians. A5: Restrictions at Nant Francon pass between Bethesda and Betws-y-coed, Gwynedd. A48: 24hr signals at Drefach, Dyfed, between Carmarthen and junction 49 (M4).

Scotland: A737: Lane closed on Main Road, Elderslie. A77: One lane each way from Fenwick Road, N of East Ferry, Toll (A726), Giffnock, to Edinburgh. A74: One lane each way, temporary lights E of Tranent.



NOON TODAY

has sky - blue sky and clouds - o-cloudy, overcast - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1192-1193-1194-1195-1196-1197-1198-1199-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-12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